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THE FOURTH REPORT

OF THE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OF THE

AMERICAN

BAPTIST HOME MISSION SOCIETY,

1836.

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
This pamphlet contains three sheets, and being a periodical, the postage upon it for 100 miles or less, is 4½ cents; over 100 miles, 6 cents.

NEW-YORK:

PUBLISHED AT THE OFFICE OF THE A. B. H. M. S. CLINTON-HALL.

John Gray, Printer,

1836.

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NOTICES.

Communications to be addressed to the Rev. Jonathan Going, or Rev. Luther Crawford, Corresponding Secretaries of the A. B. H. M. Society, at Clinton Hall, corner of Nassau and Beekman streets, New-York.

Donations and subscriptions to be addressed to Remyon W. Martin, Esq. Treasurer, of the Society, 57 Wall-street, Office of the Contributionship Insurance Company.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The fifth annual meeting of the Society, will be held at such time and place as the Executive Committee shall appoint, of which due notice will be given.

APPLICATIONS FROM CHURCHES.

The Executive Committee request that all applications from feeble churches for aid in supporting the preaching of the gospel, should contain the following particulars:

1. The name of the church or congregation; the number of communicants and average number of attendants on public worship; the denomination and size of congregations immediately contiguous; the amount of pecuniary aid which the applicants will be able themselves to afford their ministers; the whole amount which they propose to allow him, and the least sum that will be sufficient from this Society in aid of the design. These statements should be signed by the trustees or deacons, or by a committee of the congregation, and confirmed by the certificate of some minister acquainted with the facts.

2. The name and post office address of the minister whose services they desire to secure, his credentials, and the certificate of one or more ministers of known standing, as to his general character for piety, zeal and acceptableness as a minister of the gospel.

As a general rule, the appropriations of the American Baptist Home Mission Society are for twelve months, at the end of which time, if further aid be needed, a new application must be made.

MISSIONARIES.

It is requested, in the case of ministers applying or proposed by others, for employment as Missionaries of this Society, that there be forwarded the post-office address of such minister, his credentials and accompanying certificate, as is above required in the case of churches.

AUXILIARIES.

It is respectfully requested that Auxiliary Societies, when formed, report themselves without delay to the Corresponding Secretary, transmitting the names and residence of their officers, the post-office address of their Secretary, and a copy of their constitution; and all are requested to report at least once a year to the Executive Committee of the parent society, (through the Cor. Secretary,) so that their reports may be received by the first of April.

BAPTIST STATE CONVENTIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS.

The clerks of State Conventions and the clerks of Associations, (in those States where such Conventions have not yet been formed, or are not accustomed to publish with their proceedings a tabular view of the condition of the churches within their bounds,) are respectfully requested to transmit to the Corresponding Secretary copies of their minutes.

THE FOURTH REPORT

OF THE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OF THE

AMERICAN

BAPTIST HOME MISSION SOCIETY,

PRESENTED AT ITS

ANNIVERSARY IN PHILADELPHIA, JUNE 7, & 8, 1836.

WITH THE

TREASURER'S REPORT,

AND

AN APPENDIX,

CONTAINING FORMS OF CONSTITUTION, &c.

NEW-YORK:

PUBLISHED AT THE OFFICE OF THE A. B. H. M. S. CLINTON-HALL.

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—
1836.

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

AMERICAN BAPTIST HOME MISSION SOCIETY.

ARTICLE I. This Society shall be called the AMERICAN BAPTIST HOME MISSION SOCIETY.

ARTICLE II. The great object of this Society shall be to promote the preaching of the Gospel in North America.

ARTICLE III. Any person may become a member of this Society by contributing annually to its funds; thirty dollars paid at one time shall constitute a member for life; one hundred dollars paid at one time shall constitute a director for life; and any person on paying a sum which, in addition to any previous contribution, shall amount to one hundred dollars, shall be a director for life; and any Baptist Church or Association, or State Convention, or Missionary Society, that contributes annually to the objects of this Society, shall be entitled to be represented by one or more delegates in its annual meetings.

ARTICLE IV. The officers of this Society shall be a President, Vice Presidents, a Treasurer, an Auditor, Corresponding Secretaries, a Recording Secretary, and fifty Directors, who shall be annually appointed by the Society.

ARTICLE V. The Officers and Life Directors shall appoint an Executive Committee of thirteen persons exclusive of the Treasurer, Corresponding Secretaries, and the Recording Secretary, who shall be members ex-officio, residing in the city of New-York and its vicinity, five of whom shall be a quorum regularly convened. This Committee shall have power to appoint its own meetings, form its own rules of business, and fill any vacancies which may occur during the year, and convene special meetings of the Board and of the Society; shall appoint missionaries, and instruct them as to the field and manner of their labours; shall dispose of the funds for the objects of the Society, provided that all moneys contributed for any specific purpose shall be faithfully applied only to that particular object; shall create such agency or agencies for the appointment of missionaries and for other purposes as the interests of the Society may require; and shall make an annual report of their proceedings to the Society. All the Officers, Executive Committee, Agents and Missionaries of the Society shall be members of some regular Baptist Church, in general union with the body of that denomination.

ARTICLE VI. The Treasurer shall give bonds to such amount as the Executive Committee shall think proper.

ARTICLE VII. Any Baptist Missionary Society may become auxiliary, by agreeing to pay into the treasury of this Society the whole of its surplus funds, and sending to the Corresponding Secretary a copy of its constitution and annual reports, mentioning the names of its missionaries, and the fields of their operations.

ARTICLE VIII. Every Auxiliary Society who shall agree to pay the whole of its funds to this Society, shall be entitled to a missionary, or missionaries to labour in such field as it may designate, to an amount at least equal to that of its contributions: provided such designation be made at the time of payment.

ARTICLE IX. The officers of Auxiliary Societies shall be ex-officio Directors of this Society, and their members shall be members of this Society.

ARTICLE X. The annual meeting of the Society shall be held at such time and place, as the Society shall determine at a previous annual meeting, or as the Executive Committee shall determine.

ARTICLE XI. No alteration of this Constitution shall be made without an affirmative vote of two thirds of the members present at an annual meeting; nor, unless the same shall have been proposed at a previous annual meeting, or recommended by the Executive Committee.

LIFE DIRECTORS.

Constituted by the payment of One Hundred Dollars and upwards.

- Rev. Joseph Ballard, South Berwick, Maine, by his church.
 " John N. Brown, Boston, by the Federal-st. Baptist church.
 " John Blain, Pawtucket, R. I. by the Baptist church.
 " James Barnaby, by the 2d church and congregation, Lowell, Mass.
 * Nathaniel R. Cobb, Esq. Boston, by his own subscription.
 Rev. Pharcellus Church, by 2d church in Providence.
 " Spencer H. Cone, by Oliver-st. church, New-York.
 " Daniel Chessman, by the Baptist church, Lynn, Massachusetts.
 " John Cookson, Middletown, Con. by the Baptist church.
 William B. Crosby, Esq. New-York, by his own subscription.
 William Colgate, Esq. " " "
 Rev. Duncan Dunbar, " by his church and congregation.
 " Gustavus F. Davis, Hartford, Con. " "
 " John L. Dagg, by 5th church and congregation, Philadelphia.
 " Daniel Dodge, by 1st Baptist church and congregation, Newark, New-Jersey.
 " *E. Foster, Amesbury, Mass. by his church and congregation.
 " *E. W. Freeman, by 1st Baptist church and congregation, Lowell, Ms.
 " Jonathan Going, New York, by the church in Worcester, Ms.
 " William Hague, by 1st church in Boston.
 " J. G. Hall, Tennessee, for services rendered.
 " Benjamin M. Hill, by 1st Baptist church in Troy.
 " Leland Howard, by 1st Baptist church and congregation, Brooklyn, New-York.
 " Henry Jackson, by 1st Baptist church in Charlestown, Ms.
 " *Bela Jacobs, by 1st Baptist church in Cambridge, Ms.
 " James D. Knowles, Newton, by 2d Baptist church, Boston.
 " William Leverett, by Baptist church in Roxbury, Ms.
 " James H. Linsley, by Baptist church in Stratford, Con.
 " Howard Malcolm, Boston, by his church and congregation.
 " Archibald Maclay, New-York, by church in Mulberry-st.
 " John C. Murphy, by a few friends in New-York.
 Mr. Joel Marble, Worcester, Ms. by Mrs. Esther Waters.
 Isaac Newton, Esq. New-York, by his own subscription.
 Rev. R. E. Pattison, Providence, R. I. by his church and congregation.
 " G. B. Perry, Philadelphia, by his church.
 " D. Packer, Mount Holly, Vermont, by his church.
 " Caleb B. Shute, by Miss Lucy Swaim and others.
 " Daniel Sharp, Boston, by his church and congregation.
 " Orson Spencer, by Deep River " "
 " Henry Stanwood, Bristol, Con. " "
 " Charles G. Sommers, New-York. " "
 " Baron Stow, Boston, " "
 " Charles Train, Framingham, Ms. " "
 " F. Augustus Willard, Worcester, Ms. " "
 " Nathan Wildman, Weston, Ms. " "
 " William R. Williams, New-York, " "
 " Bartholomew T. Welch, Albany, " "
 " J. C. Welch, Warren, Rhode Island.
 " Rufus Babcock, D. D. of Philadelphia, by his own subscription.
 " Wm. Parkinson, by the 1st church and congregation, New-York.
 Mr. George C. Germond, of New-York, by his own subscription.
 John A. Miller, Esq. of New-York, by his own subscription.
 Stephen B. Munn, Esq. of New-York, " "
 Charles L. Roberts, Esq. of " " "
 William Tracey, Esq. of New-York, " "
 Rev. Richard Fuller, Beaufort, S. C. by himself.
 Mr. Wm. Tripp, " " "
 Rev. Jesse Hartwell, by members of the Darlington and Ebenezer churches, S. C.
 " James C. Furman, by the Welsh Neck church, on Society Hill, S. C.
 " John M. Simmons, pastor of the Elim church, S. C. by himself.
 " Iveson L. Brookes, Woodville, S. C. by himself.

- Dr. William H. Turpin, Augusta, Geo. by himself.
 Rev. Jonathan Aldrich, Worcester, Ms. by his church and congregation.
 " Wm. G. Trask, Taunton, Ms. by " "
 " George B. Ide, Boston, Ms. by Miss L. Swaim, and others.
 " Rev. Timothy G. Tingley, Foxborough, Ms. by his church and congregation.
 Hon. Heman Lincoln, Boston, by himself.
 Rev. C. O. Kimball, Methuen, Ms. by himself.
 Wm. Crane, Esq. Baltimore, by himself.
 Wm. E. Garratt, Esq. Pa. by himself.
 Rev. A. D. Gillett, Philadelphia, by the church and congregation.
 " A. Sherwood, Ga. by himself.
 " Math. Bolles, Milford, N. H. by himself.
 Math. Bolles, jr. Esq. Boston, by himself.
 Hon. N. Brown, Providence, R. I. by himself.
 Rev. S. P. Hill, Baltimore, by his church.
 " C. D. Mallory, Milledgeville Ga. by the Central Association.
 Thomas Cooper, Esq. Eatonton Ga. by himself.
 Rev. T. Wightman, Lyme Ct. by Miss E. Clark.
 " John Middleton, New-York, by his church.

LIFE MEMBERS.

Constituted by the payment of Thirty Dollars or upwards.

A

- " George B. Atwell, West Woodstock, Connecticut, "
 " Alvin Ackerly, Hadlyme, New London, "

B

- *Rev. Thomas Barrett, Webster, Massachusetts, by his church and congregation.
 " Joseph G. Binney, West Bolyston, Mass. " "
 " Job B. Boomer, Sutton, Massachusetts, " "
 " George Benedict, N. Y. " "
 " Asa Bronson, Fall River, Mass. " "
 " D. C. Bolles, Southbridge, Mass. " "
 " John Butler, North Yarmouth, Maine, " "
 " William Bowen, Westboro, Massachusetts, " "
 " Pierpont Brockett, Essex, Connecticut, " "
 Col. Charles Brockway, Broadalbin, New-York, by his own subscription.
 Rev. Ebenezer Briggs, Middleboro, Massachusetts, by Old Colony B. M. Society.
 " Appleton Belknap, Holden, Massachusetts, by his church.
 " Joseph Banvard, New-York city, by Rev. Charles G. Sommers.
 Mr. Charles D. Belden, New-York city, by his own subscription.
 Rev. Jacob H. Brouner, New-York city, by his church and congregation.
 Mrs. Sarah Butler, Lansingburgh, New-York, by her own subscription.
 Rev. David Bernard, by the 16th church and congregation, New-York.
 " John J. Beck, Coosawhatchie, S. C. by himself.
 S. Blanding, M. D. Columbia, S. C. by himself.
 Rev. Wm. H. Brisbane, Charleston, S. C. by himself.
 " W. Q. Beattie, Darlington Dist. S. C. by Mechanicville church.
 Peter Balen, by the East Baptist church, New-York city.
 Uriah Benedict, Esq. Pawtucket, R. I. by himself.

C

- *Rev. John Chase, Brookfield, Massachusetts, by his church and congregation.
 " Otis Converse, Grafton, Massachusetts, "
 Capt. John Cavis, Lowell, Massachusetts, by his own subscription.
 Rev. Henry Clark, Seakonk, Massachusetts, by his church.
 " M. Coleman, Byron, New-York " "
 " B. Cook, jr. Willimantic, Ct. by his church.
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 Mr. John Colgate, " "
 Mr. Ebenezer Cauldwell, " "
 Mr. Richard M. Crane, Newark, New-Jersey, "
 Mrs. M. Callom, by her own subscription.
 J. C. Crane, Esq. Richmond, Va. by himself.

* Dead.

D

- Rev. Thomas Driver, Dedham, Massachusetts, by his church.
 " Francis Darrow, Waterford, Connecticut, "
 " John Dowling, Newport, Rhode Island, "
 Mr. J. W. Donallen, East Cambridge, Massachusetts, by 2d church.
 Rev. Orrin Dodge, by 2d Sand Lake church and congregation.
 " Simeon J. Drake, by the 1st church and congregation, New-York.
 " Jonathan Davis, Fairfield Dist. S. C. by himself.
 Isaac Davis, Esq. Worcester, Mass. by himself.
 Rev. C. B. Davis, Newton, Upper Falls, Ms. by a friend.

E

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 Mr. Silas J. Evans, New-York, by his own subscription.
 Mrs. M. Ellis, of Stamford, Connecticut, by her own subscription.
 Rev. John Ellis, of Stamford, Ct. by his own subscription.

F

- Rev. Abiel Fisher, Sturbridge, Massachusetts, by his church.
 " Timothy W. Freeman, by South Baptist church, New-York city.
 " Jonathan E. Forbush, Attleborough, Ms. by his church and congregation.
 " Jos. Freeman, Cavendish, Vermont, "
 " Samuel Fogg, Topsham, Maine, "
 " Joshua Fletcher, Saratoga, N. Y. "
 " Leonard Fletcher, Great Valley, Pennsylvania, "
 Mr. William Fitch, of New-York, by his own subscription.

G

- Rev. John Greene, Leicester, Massachusetts, by his church.
 Mr. David R. Griggs, Boston, Massachusetts, by his own subscription.
 Rev. Zelotes Grenell, Paterson, New-Jersey, by church in Westtown, N. Y.
 " James Gilpatrick, Bluehill, Maine, by his church.
 " James Grow, Thompson, Connecticut, "
 Mr. William E. Garrett, Philadelphia, by his own subscription.
 Mr. William Grummon, Newark, New-Jersey, by his own subscription.
 Rev. Calvin Greenleaf, by a few friends.
 " John W. Gibbs, by a few friends.
 Mr. John Gardner of Newark, New-Jersey, by his own subscription.
 Mr. Joshua Gilbert of New-York. "
 Rev. Ezra Going, Pennsylvania, by himself.
 Rev. S. Gregory, New-Milford, by Franklin Association.
 Capt. J. Going, by Youth's Home Mission Society, Brooklyn.
 Rev. A. Goodell, Somersworth, New-Hampshire, by his church.
 " J. R. Goodno, Campton, " by his people.

H

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 " George W. Houghton, " "
 Rev. Josiah Hawes, Topsham, Maine, by his church.
 " Nathaniel Harvey, Meriden, Connecticut, "
 " Daniel Hascall, Hamilton, New-York, by Mrs. Alice Hascall.
 " Elisha D. Hubbell, Clifton Park, New-York, by his church.
 " John Harris, Burnthills, New-York, "
 " William Hutchinson, Amenia, New-York, "
 " Charles J. Hopkins, Salem, New-Jersey, "
 " J. C. Harrison, Bridgeton, Cumberland Co. N. J. "
 Mr. William Hillman, New-York, his own subscription.
 Jason Houghton, Esq. Milton, Massachusetts, by his sons.
 Rev. Daniel T. Hill, by the church and congregation, Plainfield, N. J.
 Mr. Andrew Hopper of Paterson, N. J. by his own subscription.
 Rev. H. H. Haff, Vt. by his church.

J

- John B. Jones, Esq. Boston, by his own subscription.
 Mr. Charles P. Jacobs, Paterson, New-Jersey, by his own subscription.
 Rev. Timothy Jackson, Deckertown, by his church.

- Rev. Wm. B. Johnson, D. D. Edgefield Court house, S. C. by Females of his church.
 " Adoniram Judson, Burmah, by Enon Baptist church, Cincinnati, O.
 " Matthew Jones, by the Stephentown Association.
 " T. Joul, Lebanon, N. Y. his church.

K

- Mr. Josiah Kendall, Dunstable, Massachusetts, by his own subscription.
 Rev. J. H. Kennard, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, by Ladies of his church.
 " Charles O. Kimball, Methuen, Massachusetts, by his church.
 " T. J. Kitts, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, "

L

- Rev. Zenas L. Leonard, Sturbridge, Massachusetts, by his church.
 *Rev. J. E. Lazell, Worthington, Ohio, by church in Harvard, Mass.
 " Daniel Lewis, Piscataway, New-Jersey, by his church.
 " Beriah N. Leach, Middlebury, New-York, by his church.
 " Peter Ludlow, by a friend to the Society.
 " Lebbeus Lathrop, by the church and congregation at Samptown, N. J.
 J. M. Linnard, Esq. Philadelphia, by himself.
 Rev. R. P. Lamb, Milo, N. Y. by his church.

M

- Rev. Bradley Miner, Fall River, Massachusetts, by his church.
 " S. S. Mallary, Willington, Connecticut, "
 Mr. Henry Mackeness, New-York city.
 Rev. Benjamin Manning, Brookfield, Massachusetts by his church.
 " John S. Maginnis, Portland, Maine, "
 Mr. Aaron B. Meeker, Elizabethtown, New-Jersey, by his own subscription.
 " R. W. Martin, New-York city, "
 *Rev. A. R. Martin, by R. W. Martin, Esq. New-York.
 Rev. William G. Miller, by the Bethel church and congregation, New-York.
 " Clerence W. Mulford, by the church and congregation, Pemberton, N. J.
 Mr. William D. Murphy, of New-York, by his own subscription.
 A. M. McIver, Esq. Society Hill, South Carolina, "
 Rev. Henry W. Mahony, by the Piedmont church, S. C.
 " Nicholas Medbury, Watertown, Massachusetts, by church and congregation.
 " Martin Miner, Walcott, by mission societies.
 " Jesse Mercer, D. D. Georgia, by his own subscription,
 Col. John B. Miller, Sumterville, S. Carolina, "
 James McLellan, by Hamilton missionary society.

N

- Rev. Peter Nurse, Ellsworth, Maine, by church.
 " Noah Norton, Maine, by church in Topsham.
 " Rev. Robert Napier, by Mispah church, South Carolina.
 " Noah Nichols, Rumney, New-Hampshire, by his church.
 " Rollin H. Neale, New Haven, Con. by his church.

O

- Rev. John Ormsbee, Westkill, New-York, by his church.

P

- Rev. John Paine, Ward, Massachusetts, by his church.
 " Addison Parker, Sturbridge, Mass. by church and congregation, Southbridge.
 Mr. G. W. Platt, New-York city, by his own subscription.
 Rev. John Parkhurst, Chelmsford, Massachusetts, by his own subscription.
 " William Phillips, Providence, Rhode Island, by his church.
 " Calvin Philleo, Pawtucket, Rhode Island, by his church.
 " George Phippin, Suffield, Con. by his church.
 " Phineas Pillsbury, Nobleboro, Mass. by his church.
 " Thomas Powell, Milton, New-York, by his church.
 " Abijah Peck, Clifton Park, " by his church.
 Mr. Charles Postley, New-York city, by his own subscription.
 Rev. F. S. Parke, by the Stephentown association.
 " Asa H. Palmer, "
 " Samuel Pomeroy, by ministers' meeting, Columbia county, New-York.
 Mr. Roger Pegg, of New-York city, by his own subscription.
 Rev. Darling Peeples, by ladies of Barnwell church, South Carolina.

Rev. Lemuel Porter, Lowell, Mass. by his church and congregation.

Q

Josiah Quincy, Esq. by Meredith association, New-Hampshire.

R

Rev. Arthur A. Ross, Centreville, Rhode Island, by his church.

" T. B. Ripley, Bangor, Maine, "

" John Rogers, Scotch Plains, New-Jersey, "

" Ebenezer Rodgers, Howard county, Missouri, by his own subscription.

Mr. Joel Richards, Claremont, New-Hampshire, "

Rev. Thomas Roberts, Middletown, New-Jersey, by his church.

Mr. Joseph Reynolds, Philadelphia, by his own subscription.

Rev. Philip Roberts, jun. by the Stephentown association.

" Aaron Rand, by Amity-street church, New-York.

" Thomas Rand, " "

" Morgan J. Rhees, by the church and congregation at Trenton, New-Jersey.

" Joseph L. Robert, by the Black Swamp Baptist church South Carolina.

S

Rev. Joseph Shepard, Mount Holly, New-Jersey, by his church and congregation.

" Henry Smalley, Cohansey, New-Jersey, "

" S. F. Smith, Waterville, Maine, "

" Horace Seaver, Warren, " "

" Silas Stearns Bath, " "

Mr. Isaiah Spalding, Chelmsford, Massachusetts, by his own subscription.

Hon. Oliver Starkweather, Pawtucket, "

Mr. Charles Sked, A. M.

Rev. Peter Sparks, by the church and congregation, Lyon's Farms, New-Jersey.

Rev. John Smitzer, by his church and congregation.

" James M. Stickney, by the church and congregation, Lyon's Farms, New-Jersey.

Mr. Joseph Smith, by the church and society at Fruit Hill, Rhode Island.

Mr. Asa F. Smith, Newton, Upper Falls, by his own subscription.

Thomas Shaw. Esq. Boston, by his own subscription.

T

Mr. J. P. Turney, Fairfield, Con. by Mrs. Lydia Sherwood.

Reuben True, Esq. by church in Jeffry.

Rev. Joseph D. Taylor, by the Stephentown association.

Mr. Thomas Thomas, New-York, by his own subscription.

Rev. J. B. Taylor, Richmond, Virginia, by William Crane, Esq.

V

James Vanderpool, Esq. Newark, New-Jersey, by his own subscription.

Rev. Ashley Vaughn, by church and congregation at West Troy, New-York.

Mrs. M. R. P. Vanvard, by the 2d Baptist church and congregation, Salem, Mass.

W

Nathan Waterman, jun. Esq. Providence, R. I. Sunday School 1st church.

William Winterton, Esq. New-York city, by his own subscription.

Rev. F. Wayland, jun. D. D. Providence, R. I. by Students of Brown University.

Mr. Edward Windust, New-York city, by his own subscription.

" Robert F. Winslow, " "

Rev. John Walker, Sutton, Massachusetts, by his church.

" Daniel Wildman, New-London, Con. "

" Stephen Wilkins, Galway, New-York, "

" G. S. Webb, New-Brunswick, N. J. "

" Isaac Westcott, Stillwater, N. Y. "

" Jonathan Wade, Burmah, by Enon Baptist church, Cincinnati, O.

" Adam Wilson, by Ladies of Baptist church in Saco, Maine.

" Daniel Williams, by Amity-street church, New-York.

Mr. Elijah Withington, New-York, by his own subscription.

Isaac D. Wilson, Esq. Society Hill, S. C. by himself.

Mrs. Elizabeth Williams, " " by herself.

Ransom Warner, M. D. by the East Baptist church, New-York city.

Rev. Warham Walker, Shaftsbury, Centre, Vt. by his church and congregation.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING.

PHILADELPHIA, June 7, 1836.

The American Baptist Home Mission Society met in the New Market-street church, (Rev. Joseph H. Kennard, Pastor,) at 3 o'clock P. M. An able and interesting discourse was delivered by Rev. W. R. Williams, of New-York, from Mark i. 38. "*And he said unto them, let us go into the next towns, that I may preach there also, for therefore came I forth.*" Rev. A. Maclay, of New-York, conducted the devotional services.

2. The Hon Heman Lincoln, of Boston, President of the Society, took the chair, and called the members to order for business.

3. A committee to nominate a Board of Officers and Managers was appointed, consisting of brethren J. Going, J. A. Kennard, G. S. Webb, of New-Jersey, C. O. Kimball, Ms. and J. Dowling, R. I.

4. A committee of arrangements was appointed, viz: brethren A. Maclay, W. Jewell, M. D., and A. D. Gillett.

5. A committee to ascertain the names of members and delegates present, and to examine their certificates, was chosen, consisting of brethren L. Crawford, J. C. Harrison of N. J., and J. Aldrich, of Ms.

6. Adjourned to meet in the same place at a quarter before 8 o'clock, P. M.

Quarter before 8 o'clock, P. M.

7. Society met according to adjournment. Sung the hymn,

"Salvation, O the joyful sound."

The 35th chapter of Isaiah was read by Rev. A. D. Gillett, of the Sansom-street church, and Rev. J. Ellis, of Ct. prayed.

8. The report of the Treasurer, Wm. Colgate, Esq., was read by himself. It embraced a period of nearly fourteen months. The receipts were \$16,910 85. Expenditures for missionaries, Secretaries' salaries, travelling expenses, rents, postage, printing, &c. \$15,912 98. Due to the Treasurer, \$176 13;—leaving a balance of \$818 91 in the Treasury.

The acceptance of the report was moved by J. M. Linnard, Esq. of Philadelphia, and seconded by Gen. Joseph Miles, of Pa. and carried.

9. The Report of the Executive Committee was read by Rev. L. Crawford.

Its acceptance and publication were moved by Rev. C. O. Kimball, Secretary of the Ms. Convention, and seconded by Rev. J. Dowling, of Newport Rhode Island. Both these brethren supported their motion, with interesting addresses. The resolution passed.

A collection was then taken for the benefit of the Society, amounting to \$65 46.

10. Prayer by Rev. G. S. Webb, of New-Jersey. Adjourned.

Wednesday, June 8.

11. The Society met according to adjournment, at 9 o'clock A. M. Sung,

"Jesus shall reign where'er the sun," &c.

Prayer by Rev. Leonard Fletcher, of Great Valley, Pa.

12. Minutes of the preceding days were read, amended and approved.

13. The Committee appointed to ascertain the names of members delegates, &c. reported as follows:

From the 2d Baptist church in Philadelphia, Rev. T. J. Kitts, Rev. S. Sigfried and Wm. Van Dyke.

Rev. Joseph Sheppard, Mount Holly, N. J.

" John Ellis, Stamford, Ct.

" Jona. G. Collom, Danbury, Ct.

" J. C. Harrison, Bordentown, N. J.

" John Middleton, East church, New-York city.

" Ebenezer Loomis, of Ohio.

" John Dowling, Newport, R. I.

" Isaac T. Hinton, Chicago, Ill.

" A. D. Gillett, Sansom-st. church, Philadelphia.

Wm. Winterton, Esq., West church, New-York city.

Delegates from Baptist Missionary Association, Pa :—Rev. J. G. Coliam, Rev. John Thomas, Rev. Geo. Higgins, Rev. Ezra Going, Rev. P. D. Gillett and Rev. I. M. Allen.

Also, James M. Linnard, John L. Dagg, Joseph H. Kennard, Joseph Miles, James Estep, Sheldon Norton, Wm. Shadrack, Joseph Walker, J. J. Woolsey, Wilson Jewell, John B. Trevor, H. G. Jones, Samuel Huggens, A. D. Gillett, J. Jones, Jacob Reed, Geo. McLeod, Wm. E. Garrett, Joseph Taylor, T. P. Sherborne, William B. Way, Joseph Reynolds, Israel E. James, J. M. Pugh, John Hassall.

From Mass. Convention.—Rev. Charles O. Kimball, Rev. Jona. Aldrich and Hon. Heman Lincoln.

Rev. A. Maclay, of Mulberry-st. church, New-York city.

" Wm. R. Williams, of Amity-st. church do. do.

William Colgate, Esq. of Oliver-st. church do. do.

Rev. J. M. Challis, Freeheld, N. J.

Wm. Crane, Esq. of Baltimore.

Hon. P. P. Runyon, of New-Jersey.

Rev. Leonard Fletcher, Great Valley, Pa.

" G. S. Webb, New-Brusnwick, N. J.

Delegates from the Central Union Association : brethren, W. T. Brantly, Wm. S. Hall, Miles, Mulford, Loxley, Wilson, Seddinger, Moore, Maul, Nichols, Beck, Reed and Stetson.

Report was accepted.

14. Rev. Dr. Going Corresponding Secretary, in behalf of the Executive Committee, reported a recommendation to amend the IV. Art. of the Constitution,—erasing the word "a" before Corresponding, and changing "secretary," into secretaries ; also, the V. Art. affecting the number of the Executive Committee, making it read, "thirteen persons exclusive of Treasurer, Corresponding Secretaries and Recording Secretary, who shall be members ex-officio."

The recommendation was adopted, and the Constitution altered.

15. The Committee on nominations reported as follows :

President.

HON. HEMAN LINCOLN, of Massachusetts.

Vice Presidents.

A. Shaw, Esq., of Maine.
 Josiah Quincy, Esq., of N. H.
 Hon. J. H. Cotton, of Vermont.
 Hon. N. H. Bottom, of Vermont.
 Hon. James H. Duncan, of Mass.
 Hon. George N. Briggs, of Mass.
 Albert Day, Esq., of Conn.
 Jefferson Borden, Esq., R., I.
 Hon. P. P. Runyon, of New-Jersey.
 Friend Humphrey, Esq., of New-York.
 Jos. S. Walter, Esq., of Penn.
 Hon. C. Wingate, of Kentucky.
 William Crane, Esq., of Maryland.
 Hon. Jesse Holman, of Indiana.
 Hon. Frances Dunlavy, of Ohio.
 J. C. Crane, Esq. of Virginia.
 Hon. Henry Hoyle, of Lower Canada.
 Hon. Jos. Wenham, of Upper Canada.
 B. F. Edwards, M. D. of Illinois.
 J. B. Halsted, Esq., of New-York.
 Hon. Jos. H. Marshal, of Tenn.
 Rev. Jeremiah Vardeman, of Missouri.
 Hon. Edward D. King, Alabama.
 Hon. J. K. Griffin, of South Carolina.
 Hon. Thomas Stocks, of Georgia.
 J. Withers, Esq., of District of Columbia.
 Rev. V. M. Mason, of Virginia.
 Rev. Wm. Hooper, of North Carolina.
 Hon. Calae Eldred of Michigan Ter.
 Wm. Winterton, Esq., of New-York.
 Rev. E. Robinson, of Louisiana.
 Hon. Jarvis Ring, of New-Brunswick.
 Rev. Edward Manning, of Nova Scotia.
 Hon. Thomas N. King, of Mississippi.
 Jonathan Bacheller, Esq., of Mass.
 Hon. Isaac Dimick, of Ill.
 James Vanderpool, Esq., of N. J.
 James Wilson, Esq., of Md.
 Hon. Wm. Duncan, of Pa.
 Gen. Joseph Miles, of Pa.
 Luther D. Barker, Esq., of Ohio.

Rev. JONATHAN GOING, D. D., } *Cor. Secretaries.*
 " LUTHER CRAWFORD,
 " JOHN C. MURPHY, *Recording Secretary.*
 RUNYON W. MARTIN, Esq., *Treasurer.*
 ROSWELL GRAVES, Esq., *Auditor.*

Directors.

Rev. John S. Maginnis, of Maine.
 " E. E. Cummings, N. H.
 " Baron Stow, of Massachusetts.
 " Hadley Proctor, of Vermont.
 " Francis Wayland, Jr., D. D., President of Brown University, R. I.
 " John Cookson, of Conn.
 " N. Kendrick, D. D., Principal of Lit. and Theological Institution at Hamilton, N. Y.
 " Daniel Dodge, of New-Jersey.
 " J. P. Peckworth, of Delaware.
 " W. T. Brantly, D. D., of Pa.
 " Rufus Babcock, Jr. D. D., Pa.
 " S. P. Hill, of Maryland.
 " John Kerr, of Virginia.
 " S. M. Noel, D. D., of Kentucky.
 " George C. Sedwick, of Ohio.
 " Hubbell Loomis, of Illinois.
 " Thomas P. Green, of Missouri.
 " Alva Woods, D. D., President of the University of Alabama.
 " Jesse Mercer, D. D., of Georgia.
 " Thomas Meredith, of North Carolina.
 " Stephen Chapin, D. D., President of Columbian College, District of Columbia.
 " R. B. C. Howell, of Tennessee.
 Rev. Basil Manly, of South Carolina.
 " John Booth, of Michigan Territory.
 " J. S. Bacon, of New-York.
 " S. H. Cone, "
 " B. T. Welch, D. D. "
 " B. M. Hill, "
 " E. Kingsford, "
 " E. Tucker, "
 " M. J. Rhees, of New-Jersey.
 " S. S. Mallary, of Conn.
 " J. C. Welch, of Rhode Island.
 " Lucius Bolles, D. D. of Mass.
 " D. Packer, of Vermont.
 " J. L. Dagg, of Penn.
 " J. H. Kennard, do.
 " O. C. Comstock, of New-York.
 " Elon Galusha, "
 " John Peck, "
 " Wm. F. Broadus, of Virginia.
 " Irah Chase, of Massachusetts.
 " G. S. Webb, of New-Jersey.
 " H. Smalley, "
 " W. B. Johnson, D. D. South Carolina.
 " F. A. Willard, of Massachusetts.
 " R. T. Dillard, of Kentucky.
 " John M. Peck, of Illinois.
 " Samuel W. Lynd, of Ohio.
 " Ashley Vaughn, of Mi.

The report was accepted and adopted.

16. Voted to go into recess, to give the Officers and Life Directors, opportunity to elect their Executive Committee.

The following persons were chosen ; viz :

Executive Committee.

Rev. Archibald Maclay,	Rev. Geo. Benedict,
" Spencer H. Cone,	Charles L. Roberts, Esq.
" Charles G. Sommers,	Wm. Winterton, Esq.
" Duncan Dunbar,	Timothy R. Green, Esq.
" W. R. Williams	Wm. Colgate, Esq.
" Leland Howard,	J. A. Miller, Esq.

Rev. J. Going,	} <i>Ex-Officio.</i>
" Luther Crawford,	
" J. C. Murphy,	
R. W. Martin, Esq.	

17. By Rev. A. D. Gillett, and seconded by Rev. A. Maclay,
RESOLVED, that a copy of the sermon delivered by Rev. Wm. R. Williams at the opening of the session be requested for the press ;—passed unanimously.

18. Voted that a committee of three be appointed to solicit a copy and superintend its publication, in case it is granted.

Voted that Luther Crawford, Wm. Winterton, and A. Maclay be this committee.

19. Voted that all persons subscribing \$5 or more for said sermon shall receive them at cost : all less, at double cost. A subscription was opened and \$113 subscribed.

20. The former Treasurer having resigned, Rev. A. Maclay moved the following resolution.

RESOLVED, That the thanks of this Society be tendered to Wm. Colgate, Esq., for the faithful manner in which he has discharged the duties of the office of Treasurer from the commencement of the Society. Carried unanimously.

21. Brother Colgate responded :—He has not, nor does he now shrink from labour in his Master's cause ; but he found that he had too many things on his hands ; and besides, he had recently been called to a similar office in the American and Foreign Bible Society ; an office which he felt it his duty to accept.

One consideration, he said, had deeply affected him, (nor could he mention it without overflowing emotions)—it was the privations of our self-denying missionaries in the West. "Our labour," said he, "is often much thought of, but it is not worthy to be named in comparison with theirs. They are out in heat and cold, wet and dry, sometimes sleeping on the ground at night." He expressed his most decided conviction of the importance of Home Missions, nor has he now withdrawn from the Executive Committee.

22. A resolution was introduced with the following preamble, by Rev. J. Dowling ;—

This society being deeply affected with the recital of the ardent zeal, untiring labours, and severe privations of the self denying ministers employed in its service, as detailed in the report of the Executive Committee therefore,

RESOLVED, That we sincerely sympathize with our beloved brethren in

their privations, and pledge ourselves as individuals in addition to our pecuniary efforts to sustain them, affectionately to bear them on our hearts in our daily supplications at the throne of grace. Carried.

23. The Executive committee recommended that the 10th article of the constitution be amended by adding—"or as shall be determined by the Executive Committee." Discussed and adopted.

24. A preamble and resolution was introduced by Rev. A. D. Gillett and seconded by Rev. A. Maclay, setting forth the importance of distributing correct translations in foreign tongues and recommending the churches to form societies auxiliary to the American and Foreign Bible Society just organized in New-York. Mr. G. sustained his resolution in a short and pertinent address. He was replied to by J. M. Linnard, Esq. and others, that this was not the proper place to discuss this question, it being foreign to the object for which the society had assembled; besides, such a resolution would be out of place on the minutes of this body.

Rev. L. Crawford moved an amendment, striking out all that relates to the American and Foreign Bible Society. "There could be," he observed, "but one sentiment as to the importance and the duty of distributing the word of God, as contemplated in the resolution, but there might be a choice as to the channel of operation." The amendment was received and the resolution in the form below, passed unanimously.

Whereas, the recent decision of the American Bible Society, has constituted a new era in our history, and devolved upon the Baptist denomination the delightful and responsible work of furnishing the unadulterated word of God for foreign distribution to more than half the population of the globe. Therefore,

RESOLVED, That it is the duty of every Baptist Church and all friendly to the object, as God hath given them ability, promptly to aid in the translation and distribution of the Holy Scriptures in foreign lands.

25. After some discussion introduced by Rev. Mr. Miles, of Pa., in regard to the best means of benefiting those who hold essential error, Rev. J. Aldrich, of Mass. offered the following resolution, and accompanied it with remarks.

RESOLVED, That the work contemplated by this Society, is rendered especially interesting and important, in consequence of the vast tide of emigration that is constantly flowing into the great Western Valley, from all the Atlantic States and from Europe; many of whom once enjoyed with us the inestimable privileges of the Gospel, and all of whom should, as soon as possible, be brought under its saving influence.

The resolution was seconded by Rev. Mr. Dimick of Pa.; and Rev. J. Ellis of Ct. followed; both of whom addressed the meeting, in a very interesting manner. Their experience supplied them with a rich fund of anecdotes. The resolution was laid on the table.

26. Adjourned—Prayer by brother Harrison.

3 o'clock P. M.

27. Society met according to adjournment, sung,

"Let Zion and her sons rejoice."

Prayer by Brother Wm. Crane, of Baltimore.

28. Unfinished business resumed. On Mr. Aldrich's resolution, Dr. Going remarked, that some seemed to think that new emergencies had arisen in the prosecution of the work of well doing, which required new measures. This is not the case. Human nature is the same now as ever,

and the same means must be used for the conversion of men. In quackery it was the great desideratum to find some one remedy that would meet all cases, but it has never been found—but the Gospel is a universal catholicon. It meets all cases—it cures all diseases. The plain, simple gospel is the only means that are necessary to reach and help any class of our fellow men, however depraved or enveloped in error and superstition. Carried.

29. Rev. E. Loomis, missionary agent from Ohio, late of Michigan, and Rev. I. T. Hinton, missionary from Chicago, Ill. gave interesting accounts of their labours.

30. The following was offered by Rev. Mr. Harrison, of N. J.

Whereas in the opinion of this body, religious Tracts are eminently calculated for "helps" in the missionary work, therefore,

RESOLVED, That this Society have learned with great satisfaction that the subscription opened by the Bap. Gen. Tract Society, for \$5000 with which to distribute their publications in the Valley of the West, has been more than filled; and further,

RESOLVED, That as heretofore this Society has been made the almoner of a generous donation from the said Tract Society, so will they ever be happy to afford them any facility in their power, through their missionaries and agents, in executing their plans of benevolence. Carried.

31. A resolution, respecting the American and Foreign Bible Society, was offered by Rev. A. Maclay. After undergoing considerable discussion and some amendment, it passed as follows:

RESOLVED, That this Society regard with very deep interest, the *provisional* formation of the American and Foreign Bible Society, organized for the purpose of giving to the nations faithful translations of the word of God; and distributing them as extensively as possible throughout the world. We cordially commend it to the patronage and prayers of our brethren and the friends of the Bible in all parts of these United States.

32. Prayer by Rev. J. Sheppard.

Adjourned to meet at the Sansom Street Church, at a quarter before 8 this evening.

(The Society held its closing session in this place for the sake of accommodating those that reside in the southern part of the city.)

Wednesday evening.

33. Met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Rev. J. L. Dagg.

34. The principal facts in the Report of the Ex. Committee, were recapitulated by Mr. Crawford.

35. The President called the Hon. P. P. Runyon, of N. J. to occupy the chair, while he offered the following resolution:

RESOLVED, That the Foreign and Home Mission Societies are so far from being rival institutions, they are twin sisters, and each an indispensable auxiliary to the other.

Mr. L. said that he rejoiced in this opportunity to express the sentiments of his heart. The two societies were intimately joined together, and no man should ever attempt to put them asunder. Like the christian duties, watchfulness and prayer, it is difficult to say which is the most important, for neither can exist without the other. Were our whole country brought under a strong religious influence—were it filled with churches breathing the spirit of primitive christianity, the effect would be seen and felt on all foreign operations. And to do this is the business of Home Missions. Or, were the home churches to lose their vital energy, the opposite results must follow. A young man, said Mr. L. who is enthusiastic for the conversion of the world and sighs for some distant field in Burmah or Siam, but does nothing at home, has a false zeal; he also whose efforts are circum-

scribed by his own neighbourhood—neglecting all beyond his own narrow sphere, certainly knows but little of the expansive influence of the gospel.

Rev. Dr. Going seconded the resolution, and said, that in the institutions of the gospel there could be no collision. When he was first converted, his earliest desire was to go and teach the heathen. He was at the time a student in College—and studying the geography of Southern Asia—the very spot now occupied by our missionaries. Gladly would he have gone, but providence seemed to close the way.

His first efforts in raising funds were for Burmah. We are to look at home for men and means for our foreign operations. For this purpose the churches must be kept in a healthful state.

This resolution, said he, could emanate from no other source with more propriety than from the honoured Treasurer of the Foreign Missionary Society, and he was happy in his official capacity to respond to the sentiments that had been expressed.

Rev. A. Maclay said that the Societies had well been called twin sisters. The friends of the one are the friends of the other. When a soul first finds peace in believing he first directs his attention to his family and near friends—then to his neighbourhood—to his country, until his benevolent regards embrace the whole world. This is the order of nature, and he was happy to concur in the resolution.

It was unanimously passed.

36. Rev. Mr. Miles, of Pa. moved the following, and accompanied it with remarks.

RESOLVED, That the Home Mission enterprise is one of the highest importance to the prosperity and perpetuity of our republican institutions, and should therefore receive the most cordial approbation and efficient support of every christian and patriot in all parts of our country.

Seconded by Rev. J. L. Dagg.

Rev. L. Crawford, spoke at some length on the extent of Home Missions in this country. See Appendix, No. 1.

Rev. C. O. Kimball rejoiced that he had the privilege to represent the Mass. Convention, into which had come as a component part the old Missionary Society, the oldest institution existing in the country. Passed.

37. By Hon. P. P. Runyon of N. J.

RESOLVED, That this Society regard it their duty to enlarge their operations as fast as the providence of God shall lead the way, until the grand purpose of their organization shall be accomplished; viz, *the preaching of the gospel to every creature in North America*, and they therefore instruct their Executive Committee to proceed accordingly, relying on the liberality and prayers of the churches to sustain them.

A great work, said Mr. R. is here contemplated, to preach the gospel to every creature throughout North America. Motives of a selfish nature alone would induce us to sustain this resolution. The happiness of any people is just in proportion to their religious privileges. Compare Christian with heathen countries and mark the difference. And what is the cause of this difference? It is the Gospel. The way to be happy is to cultivate the social and benevolent feelings, and to communicate as God hath prospered us. The churches should undoubtedly sustain the committee while they enlarge their operations. Seconded and passed.

38. A collection was taken for the benefit of the Society amounting to \$—

During the session, the amount of money raised or pledged was \$917 46 besides the collection last mentioned which has not yet been received by the treasurer.

39. An adjournment was moved and carried, *sine die*.

Remarks and prayer by the president, and benediction by bro. Dagg.

Thus closed the most interesting and encouraging session, this Society has ever held. The brethren from different parts of the country came together with one common feeling. All seemed impressed with the vastness and utility of the work, and all seemed determined by divine help to go up and possess the land. The influence of this anniversary we trust will be wide, and as lasting as the memory of this refreshing season.

REPORT.

"GREAT and peculiar responsibility," said an eminent civilian, since gone to his rest, "devolves upon the AMERICAN CHURCHES." This sentiment, though it may perhaps seem trite, is full of pertinency and force. Obligation is every where commensurate with the entire sum of ability; and, with no people, it is believed, is this ability, in the form of facilities, especially for carrying to perfection the plans of the Gospel, and for the diffusion of its blessings far and near, through a ruined world, greater than with us. The means, and the unrestrained liberty to use them, are, in a superior degree, ours. But the *peculiarity* of our responsibility must be sought in the position of our civil and ecclesiastical relations. The American church, unlike that in any other country, is unincorporated with political establishments, unsupported by the arm of secular power, and unpatronized by princely favor and endowments. She receives no largesses from the public revenues, nor has she any gilded preferments of her own to challenge the bigoted support of unsanctified ambition. She solicits no holy alliance with the powers that be;—protection in the free exercise of her own rights, is her only demand.

Such an attitude of religious affairs, like the form of our civil fabric, is regarded as an anomaly and an experiment. The eyes of the world are turned upon us. Like a rising star, baleful indeed to some, but to others full of joyous hope, are we seen by every voyager of the ocean. Our success or failure is awaited with intense expectation. Should the friends of Christ, unurged by the compulsion of human law, prove recreant to their high trust, the consequences to us, to our children, and to the best hopes of man, would be most disastrous. From our wreck, would the adversaries of religious freedom gather new weapons, and the prince of darkness hold insulting jubilee over our misfortunes.

It is in this aspect of our relations that the American Christian should recognize an overwhelming weight of responsibility; it is in this view, that he should rejoice to behold that brilliant galaxy of charitable institutions, for which the present era of the church is distinguished. Our eye fastens on each as a bright star of promise, a proof of the inherent energy of Christian principle and a pledge of ultimate success.

It was for the sake of bearing some humble part in the great enterprise of bringing universal man unto the obedience of the faith; it was to gather up the scattered strength of the friends of Jesus, the better to discharge individual obligation, that the Soci-

ety whose fourth Anniversary we now celebrate, was summoned into existence. Nor has it altogether failed of the end of its creation. Year by year, it has been our happiness to speak of churches gathered, and of souls saved by its instrumentality. To the praise of the riches of divine grace, be all the glory.

As the Trustees of the charities of the Church and agents of an important institution, the Executive Committee are again called upon to make to the Society, and through them to the Christian community at large a faithful *expose* of their doings for the year now just expired.

The Committee feel, that they are called with gratitude to acknowledge the goodness of God in preserving the lives of the officers of this Society, during the year, with, so far as is known, but one exception. Robert Rogers, Esq. of Newport, R. I. was one of the Vice Presidents of the Society. He was an early graduate of Brown University, and an officer in that brave and noble band of patriots who achieved their country's independence, and a member of the second Baptist Church, at Newport. They present their affectionate condolence, to the circle of friends, from which he has been removed, and accept from the hand of the Lord, the indication which it presents, that this brief life should be most ardently devoted to humble, self-denying labors, to promote the kingdom of Christ on earth. Of his worth, the persuasion was strong and firm, and concerning his death, the conviction is consoling, that he rests from his labors, and is blessed in the Lord.

SECRETARYSHIP.

It having been found desirable, and indeed, it being a part of the original plan, that the Corresponding Secretary should extensively visit Conventions, Associations, and other public bodies, to impart information, and awaken an interest as deep and general as possible, in the cause of Home Missions; and as the increasing correspondence of the Society, had already become so considerable as to require his constant presence at the Rooms, it was deemed indispensable that the labors of this office should be shared by two, that they might alternately be absent, or both present, as the business, and the interests of the Society might demand. But as the Constitution does not allow of more than one Corresponding Secretary, the Committee elected an assistant for the time being, and recommended the Society to alter the 4th article of the Constitution, making it read, Corresponding Secretaries, instead of "a Corresponding Secretary" as at present. It was also recommended that the fifth article, relating to the number of the Executive Committee, be so amended, as to read "thirteen persons, exclusive of the Treasurer, the Corresponding Secretaries, and the Recording Secretary," instead of including those last named officers; thus enlarging the Committee by four.

The revised system went into operation in the month of August last. Agreeable also, to the advice of the Society when

last convened, the duties of the Recording Secretary were enlarged, his whole time employed, and he was made a salaried officer.

AGENCIES.

Were the members of our churches fully instructed into their duty, and were each disposed to do systematically and promptly as God hath prospered him, the whole labor and expense of agents, might be dispensed with. Informed from the pulpit, or through the periodical press, of the comparative wants of the various branches of benevolence, a community, believing the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, *It is more blessed to give than to receive*, would, unsolicited, pour into every treasury more than adequate supplies. A difference of opinion may exist, whether such a day will come, but, until it does arrive, it will be necessary that brethren of accredited piety and standing in the denomination, charged with the advocacy of each institution, should visit the churches to quicken their faith, and provoke their zeal in the work of the Lord,

The Committee regret that their plan in this department, the past year, has been but partially carried into effect. They divided the Atlantic States into agency fields, and then sought diligently for men to occupy them. It is no easy matter to find men exactly adapted to this service—men, who are able so to present their object to the understanding and heart, as to elicit the liberal contributions, and the fervent prayers of the people. The giver, the almoner, and ultimate recipient, are then, all blessed, but the first most. Nor will he at a future time, dread the recurrence of an application.

Besides the service in this department rendered by the Secretaries, who have collected or got subscribed, nearly \$6000, principally in the city of New-York, the States of New-Jersey, South Carolina and Georgia, four brethren have been employed small portions of the year, viz : Rev. Ezra Going, in Maine ; Rev. Timothy Spaulding, (since gone as a missionary to the West,) in Vermont; he was succeeded in this field during the winter, by Rev. Alvin Bailey from Illinois ; and Rev. Horace A. Wilcox in Connecticut and Rhode Island.

In addition to these, others have been appointed by the conventions of the States of New York, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire, respectively, to raise funds with which to redeem the pledges severally given by them to our treasury. Their agents, therefore, are performing work for us, and they might with propriety be enrolled upon our lists. It is but an act of justice to the first named Convention here to acknowledge the receipt, at an early day, of the amount of their noble pledge, of *ten thousand dollars* !* This is the best guarantee that their still more

* The Youth's Domestic Mission Society of the city of New York, is a most efficient auxiliary of this body. The report of their Secretary, John W. Rand, Esq., just published, exhibits a spirit of enterprize which we should be glad to see pervading all the youths of our country.

generous resolution of *twelve thousand dollars*, this year, will early be accomplished !

MISSIONARY AGENTS.

It is proper in this connection to advert briefly to another class of laborers in the employ of the Society, denominated *Missionary Agents*. Their business is usually unlike that of the missionary, inasmuch as they have no charge of specific churches ; and unlike also that of an agent, inasmuch as the collection of funds is not their principal employment, and what they do collect is paid into the treasuries of the local societies. They have for a field, perhaps a State or Territory ; they travel extensively ; encourage feeble churches ; assist them to procure pastors when practicable ; seek out new fields of labour ; preach, and give tone, and direction, and impulse to the general cause, and keep the Committee informed of any thing that may be profitable for them to know. Such is our indefatigable brother, Rev. Ebenezer Loomis, of Ohio, late of Michigan. He has travelled the last year (and mostly on foot) *four thousand five hundred and five miles*, preached *two hundred and ninety-seven* sermons, solicited funds extensively, baptized several, besides performing other ministerial labour. Brethren J. M. Peck, Moses Lemon, Samuel Love, Reuben Winchell and Peter Chase, are also appointed in a similar capacity in Illinois, Missouri, Tennessee, and in the provinces of Upper and Lower Canada ; but as most of their appointments are of very recent date, or their returns imperfect, we cannot speak definitely of their labors. Their work is arduous and self-denying, but of incalculable benefit to the churches. The Executive Committee would rejoice to establish agencies of this kind in all the prominent fields on their map. They should be men of activity and prudence, and be possessed of a weight of character which would secure attention and respect to their opinions, both with the churches and with the Committee.

MISSIONARIES.

Among these, since our last Report, very considerable changes have occurred. The irresistible hand of death hath again broken our ranks. Two brethren, who a few months ago were numbered among the most devoted servants of Jesus, have terminated their course and received their crown. They were Rev. Samuel R. Clark, of Dayton, Ohio, and Rev. Samuel Harding, of Franklin, Indiana. The former saw the ripened fields waving about him with scarcely a reaper, and his love for souls, and his zeal for Christ, prompted him to put forth exertion too great for his constitutional strength, and in his attempt, instrumentally to save others from death, he found for himself a premature and lamented grave. The latter was one of the most useful ministers of Indiana. He was eminently the friend of education and the promoter of every good work,—but he sleeps, to wake not till the heavens be no more. Not only his family, but Zion herself

mourns for him! God, in these providences, reads solemn lessons to the living!

At the time of our last Anniversary, our books showed that 96 Missionaries and Agents, were, or had been, under appointment, during all, or a part of the preceding twelve months. The number since appointed is 61, of whom six did not accept, and a few others have not yet been heard from. But the support of some having been assumed by their churches, and the time of service of others having expired, and circumstances not rendering a reappointment necessary, the Committee now report 115 Missionaries and Agents, whose names and fields of labour are exhibited in the following—

TABULAR VIEW.

MISSIONARIES.	MISSION DISTRICTS.
1 *S. R. Clark,	Valley of the Miami, Ohio.
2 Gardner Bartlett,	Knox Co. Illinois.
3 William Kenner,	Morgan, Illinois.
4 Caleb Green,	Portage and Trumbull Co.'s, Ohio.
5 Hiram Gear,	Marietta, O. and Parkersburg Asso. Va.
6 William Rees,	Carroll Co. Indiana.
7 James B. Smith,	Louisiana.
8 William Spencer,	Morgan Co. Illinois.
9 John Logan,	Military Tract, Illinois.
10 William Sedwick,	Muskingum Co. and vicinity, Ohio.
11 William Chaffee,	Lima, O.
12 Ezra Going,	New England, Agent.
13 Jacob Bower,	Morgan Co. Illinois.
14 Elijah Dodson,	Green Co. Illinois.
15 Alvin Bailey,	Agent, Illinois and Vermont.
16 Moses Lemen,	Missionary Agent, Illinois.
17 Lewis Williams,	Franklin Association, Mo.
18 James Williams,	Franklin Association Mo.
19 W. W. Tucker,	Franklin Co. Mo.
20 James G. Hall,	Western District, Tennessee.
21 Amasa Clark,	Portage Co. Ohio.
22 Peter Chase,	Lower Canada.
23 William F. Misseldine,	Richland Co. Ohio.
24 Jeremiah Vardeman,	Missouri.
25 David Orr,	Arkansas Territory.
26 Henry J. Hall,	Lagrange Co. Indiana.
27 Judah L. Richmond,	Jefferson, Ashtabula Co. Ohio.
28 William A. Bronson,	Washtenaw Co. Michigan Territory.
29 J. V. A. Woods,	Logansport, Indiana.
30 Daniel Palmer,	Adams Co. Indiana.
31 Jacob Price,	Whitemanville, Michigan Territory.
32 Thomas P. Green,	St. Louis, Mo.
33 P. S. Gayle,	Missionary Agent, Tennessee.
34 William Gambell,	Grand Blanc, and vicinity, M. T.
35 *Samuel Harding,	Missionary Agent, Indiana.
36 Joshua E. Ambrose,	Plainfield, Cook Co.
37 Jeremiah F. Tolman,	Cook Co. Illinois.
38 Eliphalet Williams,	Shelby Co. Indiana.
39 Lewis Morgan,	Shelby Co. Indiana.
40 William Kellett,	Arkansas Territory.
41 William Geary,	Belville, Upper Canada.
42 Thomas Bodley,	Lenawee Co. Michigan Territory.
43 Joel Sweet,	Military Tract, Illinois.
44 John Clark,	Hancock and Adams Co.'s Illinois.
45 Nathan West,	Fulton Co. Illinois.
46 Ebenezer Loomis,	Missionary Agent, Michigan and Ohio.

* Dead.

MISSIONARIES.

- 47 James Hovey,
- 48 John Peck,
- 49 Robert Powell,
- 50 Bezaleel Hill,
- 51 Thomas Conduit,
- 52 Eber Crane,
- 53 Samuel Love,
- 54 John Micou,
- 55 Jesse M. Chapman,
- 56 Jeremiah Burns,
- 57 Robert Turnbull,
- 58 Jeremiah Hall,
- 59 William Rees,
- 60 George Matthews,
- 61 John M. Peck,
- 62 Thomas Hill, Jr.
- 63 Timothy Spalding,
- 64 Amos Stevens,
- 65 A. P. Williams,
- 66 Hezekiah Laseter,
- 67 Timothy R. Cressy,
- 68 Jacob Morris,
- 69 Benoni Allen,
- 70 John Mitchell,
- 71 Robert T. Daniel,
- 72 Calvin Greenleaf,
- 73 Thomas C. Townsend,
- 74 Isaac T. Hinton,
- 75 F. F. Seig,
- 76 Henry M'Elmarry,
- 77 John B. Graham,
- 78 A. B. Hubbard,
- 79 Jonathan G. Porter,
- 80 John O. Birdsall,
- 81 Samuel Carpenter,
- 82 Jacob Ambler,
- 83 Reuben Winchell,
- 84 S. S. Burdett,
- 85 William B. Karr,
- 86 Azael Waters,
- 87 Horace A. Wilcox,
- 88 Benjamin Clark,
- 89 Thomas Hughes,
- 90 G. F. Adams,
- 91 Norman Parks,
- 92 Thomas Y. R. Jones.
- 93 William J. Coolley,
- 94 Nathan Arnett,
- 95 James Newton,
- 96 Edward Hodge,
- 97 Supply Chase,
- 98 Mansfield Barlow,
- 99 Moses Wares,
- 100 H. H. Haff,
- 101 James Condiff,
- 102 A. R. Hinckley,
- 103 William Frazer,
- 104 John Booth,
- 105 William H. Duvall,
- 106 Rolla J. Smith,
- 107 Silas Barnes,
- 108 Oren N. Sage,
- 109 John L. Burrows,

MISSION DISTRICTS.

Medina Co. Ohio.
 State of New York, Agent, supported
 by State Convention.
 Clinton & vicinity, Michigan Territory.
 Dover and Avon, Ohio.
 Western Shore, Maryland.
 Middlebury, and Akron, O.
 Eastern District, Tennessee.
 Winston Co. Mi.
 Military Tract, Illinois,
 Choctaw and Chickesaw country.
 Detroit.
 Kalamazoo Co.
 Brantford and vicinity, Upper Canada,
 Dearborn Co. Indiana.
 Missionary Agent in Missouri.
 Jennings and Jefferson Co.'s, Indiana.
 La Porte, Indiana.
 Meigs Co. Ohio.
 Franklin Association, Mo.
 Franklin Association, Mo.
 Columbus, Ohio.
 Trumbull Co. Ohio.
 Fayette and Green Co.'s, Pennsylvania.
 Saline, Washtenau Co. M. T.
 Tennessee.
 Griggsville, Illinois.
 Marion Co. Ia.
 Chicago, Illinois.
 Louisiana.
 Missouri.
 Arkansas Territory.
 Dupage, Will Co. Illinois.
 Oplain, Will Co. Illinois.
 Munroe, M. T.
 Scioto and Musk'm Association, Ohio.
 Jonesville, M. T.
 Missionary Agent, Upper Canada.
 Hamburg, South Carolina.
 Arkansas Territory.
 Troy, Miami Co. Ohio.
 Agent.
 Arkansas Territory.
 Delaware Co. Ohio.
 Calvert st. Baltimore, Md.
 Hancock Co. Illinois.
 St. Clair Co. M. T.
 Clinton and Fayette Co.'s, Illinois.
 Military Tract, Illinois.
 Milton, Wayne Co. Ohio.
 Bear Creek, M. T.
 Michigan Territory.
 Woodville, Wilkinson Co. Miss.
 Headwaters of Maumee, Ohio.
 Missouri.
 Franklin Missionary Society, Mo.
 Sparta, Dearborn Co. Ia.
 Brodalbane, Upper Canada.
 Missionary Agent, M. T.
 South of Osage River, Mo.
 Southington and Bristol, O.
 Aurora, Portage Co. Ohio.
 Massillon, Ohio.

MISSIONARIES.

110	Thomas Powell,
111	Charles O. Kimball,
112	Aaron Seamans,
113	Isaac D. Newell,
114	Richard Griffin,

MISSION DISTRICTS.

Peoria and vicinity, Illinois.
Agent, supported by Mass. Convention.
Valley of Rock River, Illinois.
Rushville, Illinois.
Northern part of Illinois.

From the above it appears that the Society has its Laborers, either Missionaries, or Agents, in fourteen States, two Territories and two Provinces, of which we shall speak more in detail in another place.

With three exceptions, which were for shorter periods, the above were all appointed for twelve months each, making a continuous aggregate of 112 1-4 years, but as many have only partially discharged their commissions, the actual amount of service performed may not exceed 39 1-2 years, or an increase of 30 1-2 years' labor on the preceding year. Though this falls far below our wishes, and below the wants of our country, yet our surprise, under existing circumstances, should be, that so much, and not that so little, has been done! Four years ago the Society was in its infancy, without funds, and with few friends, but it has, to say the least, had a remarkable growth,—a growth which indicates a sound constitution and the approbation and blessing of Divine Providence!

THEIR LABORS ARDUOUS AND SELF-DENYING.

Where there are so many men as now occupy our Mission fields, it is reasonable to expect a great diversity of character, talent and attainment; some who can endure, and are willing to bear, more "hardness as good soldiers," than others, but as a whole, it is believed, a more laborious, self-denying, indefatigable body of preachers can nowhere be found. They are the true sons of that veteran race, the hardy pioneers of our faith in the Eastern, and Middle, and Southern States; men who, looking with contempt on ease and luxury, brave the toils and privations incident to the forest and the newly settled country. They supply from one to twelve congregations each, and these sometimes are so remotely situated from each other, as to require long journeys over imperfect roads. Their usual mode of travelling is on horseback, and "to ride" is, with many of them, a term synonymous with the whole routine of Missionary labor. The stream that cannot be forded, must be swam; if the mountain or morass forbid one pass, they choose another; if night shut in upon them, they seek some friendly shelter, and there preach him who had not where to lay his head. Ten of them could be selected whose aggregate journeyings, had they been in a strait line, would have reached once and a quarter round the globe! Their families too, who are left alone, and often ill provided for, participate in these toils and personal sacrifices.

The public eye, and public sympathy, follow him who bids an

eternal adieu to friends and native land, to publish the salvation of God on distant shores. There is a moral sublimity in his work, which gives inspiration to poetry, and his enterprize, in itself vast and holy, becomes the theme of enraptured song. The heart is more than full as it contemplates him going

“O'er the gloomy hills of darkness,”

to dispense to those ready to perish, the light of eternal life. All this is well. But those who go to the lost sheep of the house of our American Israel, and make equal sacrifices, and lose themselves from public gaze in the forest and prairie of the far West, deserve an equal place in our sympathies and affections. No multitude gathers on the strand to weep at their departure,—a few tears only may fall unseen,—no bard celebrates their deeds; they endure their fatigues and suffer their privations alone, and thus spend and are spent. Is not this rather,

“The noiseless band of heavenly soldiery,
From out the armory of God equipped?”

Such, at least, are the worthy men whom the churches are called to support by their contributions and prayers.

FIELDS OF LABOR.

It is proposed to follow our Missionaries to their several stations, arranged in the order of States. Did our limits permit, it might be desirable to give copious extracts from their correspondence, but we must be content with a condensed summary.

1. The States of *Maine*, *Vermont*, *Rhode Island*, and *Connecticut*, have been visited by our Agents, and the churches have shown a commendable zeal in the cause.

2. Over the mountains of *Western Pennsylvania*, but one Missionary has been stationed where many were needed. A morning of promise is dawning upon this region; opposition is reluctantly yielding, and an institution of learning is rising up in their midst. Our Missionary has baptized thirty, and forty-six others have given evidence of conversion.

3. On the Western shore of *Maryland*, Rev. Thomas Conduit labored with success, till about mid-summer, supplying two churches. His departure to the South was then much regretted. The pulpit of the Calvert street Church, in Baltimore, is now occupied by one of the Society's Missionaries. The station is of great importance in that city and State, which, perhaps, more than any other in the Union, abounds in subjects of the Romish faith. The prospect is favourable, but time will be required to build up a strong interest.

4. In *Ohio*, this Society has twenty five Missionaries, besides those supported by the Convention of that State; and an Auxiliary connected with the Rocky River Association. With a grant of \$100 only, this Auxiliary has sustained four laborers, a part, or all the time, at an expense of \$640. They are energetic and prosperous.

Some churches, not long since aided by this Society, are now abundantly able to sustain the gospel among themselves, and are beginning to repay the kindness they have received, to the relief of others ; yet the calls from Ohio have been frequent and urgent, and the result is, the Society now has more Missionaries there than in any other State.

5. *Michigan* has shared largely in the appropriations of the Committee. This is a field of uncommon importance. The emigrant from all quarters is taking his stand here. It will be, ere long, a rich and populous State.

The Baptist interest in this Territory has been made what it is, within a few years. "In a district," writes a Missionary from Tecumseh, "where not a single church existed when I came into the Territory (5 years ago), there is now an Association embracing twenty churches, and twelve ordained ministers. Harmony and peace prevail among them all, and the Lord has visited some of them with the gracious influences of his Spirit."

Sixteen Missionaries are laboring here with great success, in gathering churches and promoting revivals. Yet there is great destitution. "The nearest minister to the West of this" (Battle Creek), says a correspondent, "is twenty four miles, if we except one who is an Agent for the Michigan and Huron Institute. At the East, I believe there is no one in our connexion within eighty miles, and to the North and South, I know of none within a less distance ; still there are villages rising, and settlements forming in every direction. Nor are ministers of other denominations more numerous."

The prepossessions of the people are said to be favourable to our peculiar views of truth, and suitable exertion will fill this Territory with churches after the primitive order. Their Mission Society is making commendable progress.

6. In *Indiana*, eight Missionaries have labored the past year. In this State, there are three hundred and fifty eight Baptist churches, but many of them are small, and but poorly supplied with the ordinances of God's house. One Missionary ranges through three counties—one containing two hundred square miles, and 4 churches without a single ordained minister. The other two containing four hundred square miles each—have twenty one churches, few of which enjoy stated preaching more than once a month. Other portions are more highly favored, yet there is a great lack of ministerial labor. The Franklin Institute, which is in a state of forwardness, is among the most cheering signs of the times.

7. The Missions in *Illinois*, though not productive of so much visible fruit, in the form of conversions and baptisms as during some past years, have, nevertheless, been highly prosperous. The Society has been the means of introducing valuable men, (of whom they now patronize *twenty-two*), who, in conjunction with others already there, have given a strong onward impulse to the cause of truth and benevolence. In this rich and growing state there is

very much land yet to be possessed. The Illinois Convention held its *first* Anniversary the last Autumn. Though yet in its infancy, and as yet enlisting but a small portion of the numbers and influence of the denomination, it has two agents, and gives promise of great efficiency and usefulness.

8. *Missouri*. In this interesting portion of the far West, the Society has 10 Missionaries. Several of these are appointed through the Franklin Mission Society,—an efficient auxiliary located in the county, whose name it bears. What has been said of the laborious, self-sacrificing character of the Missionaries in general, is particularly applicable to these. They are hardy forerunners, who are an honor to a denomination whose worthies in every age have been working men—pilgrims and strangers on the earth.

The past year they have organized a State Convention, though, perhaps, under a modified name.

9. The wilds of Arkansas, which lie immediately south, have of late received very considerable attention. Five Missionaries are now on their wide circuits. Their labors have been blessed, but to what extent, our imperfect returns do not enable us to say.

10. *Tennessee* is an older State, has many churches of our faith, and much wealth. They have more need of men than money, though the latter is not liberally supplied, and in some places entirely withheld, on account of an unhappy error, in regard to the use of means. So strong has been the feeling in some parts of the State, on the propriety of benevolent efforts, that division has ensued. Yet we are assured by all our Missionaries, of whom, there are *six*, that the good cause is advancing. They call earnestly for more help; there being twenty churches, as is stated, that would support pastors if they could obtain them. The church in Nashville, has, within five years, out of weakness waxed strong. Besides assuming the entire support of our Missionary, brother Howell, they have raised \$450 for the Tennessee Convention the past year.

Portions of this State are very destitute. One man travelled thirty miles to be baptized of a Missionary, whom he heard preach in one of his excursions into the Chickesaw nation.

11. The States, nearer the Gulf, present a field of equal destitution and importance. The Society has two Missionaries in Louisiana, both of whom are sustained by their churches, and two also in Mississippi. Preachers of eligible talent would be appreciated in these parts, and find a generous remuneration for their services. Our efforts in behalf of New Orleans have been nearly ineffectual.

12. At Hamburg, *South Carolina*, a growing town at the termination of the South Carolina Rail-Road, a Missionary is partially supported by this Society. He was originally designated to Florida, but was prevented from going there, by the Indian disturbances.

13. The Canadian Provinces present a spectacle of deplorable

moral desolation, and we are happy to see Christians in the father land, as well as in the States, awaking to their responsibilities in their behalf. There is work enough for all, and more, we fear, than will be done for the present generation.

Lower Canada. The population of this province is 600,000 ; of whom 460,000, are considered Roman Catholics. For the religious instruction of the remaining 140,000 Protestants, there are but 68 clergymen of all denominations ; of whom four only, are Baptists. Such were the statistics a year ago, but within a twelvemonth the Baptists have more than doubled. At Montreal, an Association has been formed with eight churches and seven ministers. Great revivals have been enjoyed. The Society has 2 Missionaries here. Their prospects are said to be very cheering.

Upper Canada contains 320,000 inhabitants, and is not so much overrun by Romanism. But for all this great and growing population, there are but one hundred and sixty ministers.—There are about sixty Baptist churches scattered through the province, with perhaps half that number of clergy. There the Society have three devoted Missionaries who are laboring with good success. One of them has recently been appointed agent, to visit the churches and collect funds under a joint Commission of a local Society. This is regarded as an important movement.

We have now cursorily glanced over the Mission field as at present occupied.

LABOR ACCOMPLISHED.

As to the actual results, it is regretted that our information is so imperfect ; yet we have some certain data on which to proceed. Were we to take the full annual reports we have received, as the basis of our calculation ; were we to suppose that all have been as successful as those from whom we have heard (and there is nothing known to the contrary, unless the fact that they did not report, be taken as presumptive evidence against it)—on this basis, the results stand thus ;—they have the past year supplied 300 churches or congregations, with the word ; admitted to their fellowship 1776, viz. 1040 by baptism, and 736 by letter ; that they were instrumental in the conversion of 1676 others, who have not yet put on Christ by profession ; that they assisted in the ordination of thirty-three ministers, and in the constitution of ninety-six churches, and in the organization of seven Associations—preached 14,000 sermons, and travelled more than 144,000 miles to scatter the word of truth and life. In some particulars this statement may equal, or perhaps exceed the truth, but it is believed by the Committee, that it generally falls far below, as in the item of hopeful conversions. Our Missionaries are careful to arrogate nothing to themselves, which might be claimed in common by others. They labor, for instance, with their brethren in protracted meetings. In one place it is stated that great numbers were converted and seventy-nine baptized ; again, on a similar occasion, one

hundred and twenty were converted, but it being impossible to determine how much our missionaries contributed to the happy result, nothing was put to their account in the above estimate. It is easier to say "all of which I saw" than "part of which I was." Eternity alone, will make full disclosures of all the combined agencies that have been at work, and then shall every man receive according to his deeds.

In the estimates we have made of the good that has flowed from God, through the channels of this Society, we have thus far confined ourselves to a few statistical items. We have counted some few of the better defined waves, but have scarcely noticed the strong, ocean like under-current that has been set in motion. We have said nothing of the thousands of children and youth, that have been gathered into the Sabbath-school and Bible Class, and there brought under the teachings of the Gospel; nothing of the strong impulse given to the Temperance Reform. We have but alluded to another cause zealously advocated and promoted by the Society's Missionaries,—the cause of Education, primary, academic and theological. The enterprising sons of the West should undoubtedly be themselves, trained for the religious teachers of the West, and for this purpose, institutions are needed in their midst. Nothing have we said of the irresistible influence of example.

Said the lamented Harding in his last communication to the Society,—“I consider that the American Baptist Home Mission Society is doing incalculable good to the churches in this country, not only by the pecuniary assistance afforded them, but by the direct tendency that assistance has, when received, to renovate the churches, and teach them the duty of helping themselves—a lesson they have been but too slow to learn. Those members who have heretofore been as dead weights to Society, either wake up to duty, or become restless and seek a home elsewhere.”

Another circumstance that most unequivocally marks the prosperity of the cause is, the uncommon number of churches that have recently been erecting houses of worship. Many had worshipped in some obscure hall, or in some humble shed or school house at an inconvenient distance from town; some had met at a log courthouse at the county seat, and others, still less favored have, like the precursor of the Savior, stood under the open canopy of heaven, and called sinners to repentance. The exact number built, we know not, but in all parts of the Mission field, especially in the larger towns and cities, the brethren have said, “let us rise and build.”

Another thing cannot have escaped notice. While the number of ordinations was thirty-three, the number of churches constituted was ninety-six, or nearly three to one. This fact proves a remarkable growth of the denomination; the materials exist, and churches must be gathered, even though no preachers can at present be obtained. It, at the same, time proves the unspeakable im-

portance of seeking out, and educating young men of piety and talent for the ministry.

It is well known, and deeply regretted, that no small portion of the numerical strength of our ministry is lost, through the parsimony or inability of the churches to sustain them, while they give themselves wholly to the work of their heavenly calling. The preacher should be entirely unincumbered with secular employments. The teaching of a school even, though in itself useful, will materially lessen his efficiency; and the cultivation of a farm, or any mercantile or mechanical occupation, is still worse. It is true he may preach, but he is still a *secular man*, and a thousand such, are scarcely equal to a hundred, whose whole energies and time are devoted to the instruction of the people.

If a man labor all the week, and have the fruits of his labor, it cannot be expected, nor would it be right, that he should receive a support for preaching on the Sabbath. Men, in spiritual as in temporal occupations, should be paid for what they do. If they live *wholly* for the people, the people should measure out a liberal reward. But, not a few of our ministers would gladly forsake "houses and lands" for the Gospel's sake, could they do it without actual physical suffering. And we rejoice that there are such on the lists of this Society. They are taken from their secular avocations, and given to the churches—they are as life from the dead! Thus, this Society without the powers of creation, virtually multiplies the number of ministers!

THE PRINCIPAL FIELD.

As heretofore, the chief attention of the Committee has been turned to the great valley of the West; the largest and richest portion of these United States—a valley fertile as that which skirts the Nile, and ample enough to receive into its capacious bosom a population nearly equal to the countless millions of the Celestial Empire itself. The day is hastening when the everlasting forests shall have retired to make room for a dense mass of towns, villages and cities from the Alleghanies to the Rocky Mountains, and from the Lakes to the Gulf. We believe; (faith in the promises of God forbids doubt,) that churches will adorn those cities, towns and villages. And this faith forbids inaction.

The cry from all parts of the West for help, *more help*, **HELP IMMEDIATELY**, increases in frequency, and urgency with each revolving year. What has been done, though much in itself considered, seems only to discover the nakedness of the land. It has been estimated that the annual increase of our population is 365,000, or a congregation of 1000 per day, and this is undoubtedly very far below the truth. To provide for this augmentation, would require unceasing effort. A tide of emigration from all parts of the union, like the great waves of the sea, rolls in upon those prairies and forests. Europe too, furnishes her annual quota of a *hundred and twenty thousand*, a large portion of whom bend their course to the same destination. The backwood settlements

to day, are anon, midland towns and cities. This rapid increase will require corresponding effort. All evangelical Christians should be awake. Should the population outstrip the means of moral improvement, the disastrous consequences may easily be predicted; infidelity, perhaps in the form of a corrupted christianity, will sweep over the mass of uneducated mind, cherishing the luxuriant growth of depraved passions, and blighting all that is fair and lovely.

But this is not our only field. For, be it remembered, that if the 2000 destitute churches of this fair portion of our heritage were supplied with devoted pastors, and an indefatigable itinerant were given to every 500 souls, scattered where churches are not gathered; then the end for which this Society was organized would by no means have been attained. The British possessions stretch along our Northern frontier, from Newfoundland almost to the Pacific, and the whole is white to the harvest. The call is loud and urgent, "come over and help us." On the South are Texas and the Republic of Mexico, now both perhaps,—certainly the latter, inaccessible to the Christian Missionary, but their portals will, undoubtedly, be thrown wide open as soon as we shall be in circumstances to enter them. It is a delightful anticipation that the banner of the true cross may yet be planted in the city of Montezuma, and the blessings of the Gospel be diffused through this land, which has experienced nothing from her misnamed Christianity but treachery, and cruelty, and horrid barbarity.

FINANCES.

The receipts of the Society the past year, have been more than double those of any preceding year. Yet they have not been sufficient to enable the Committee to proceed with energy. For a time they withheld nearly all appointments; and now are enabled to report a few hundred dollars in the Treasury, simply because the Missionaries have not drawn for their dues. The liabilities of the Society are, at this time, very heavy. Were they not at all to enlarge their operations, more money would be needed the ensuing than the last year. But shall we remain stationary? Let the churches answer; let those answer to whose stewardship the Lord hath committed the silver and gold. The thought of it would be most melancholy. It must not be.

Some churches and individuals have done all that Christian principle could demand; and yet not a few, it is apprehended, have yet to pay their first dollar to this cause, which should lie most near every American heart! God calls us to a great work—to preach the Gospel at home and abroad—to bear our part *alone* in giving his unadulterated word to the families of the earth, in their own tongues. It is a work for the denomination—the *whole* denomination; and let every man see to it, that the curse of Meroz fall not upon him!

MOTIVES TO ACTION.

It was not the fear of hell, nor the hope of personal or sectarian aggrandizement, that impelled onward the great Apostle of the

Gentiles. It was the love of Christ that constrained him. So should every disciple seek for his highest motive in the love and command of his Savior. His frown is death, his favour is life eternal. And what men do to the least of his brethren, is received as done to himself. In view of such considerations, sectarian rivalry,—emulation of others' deeds as a motive, seems contemptible. Yet one or two collateral reasons may be mentioned for turning a large share of our beneficence into this channel.

1. *The immediate productiveness of the means here expended.* Those that have gone abroad have invariably laboured long to prepare the way. But this society in a less time than they have usually consumed in breaking the *caste*, and with small expenditure of pecuniary means, counts from six to eight thousand of their countrymen, translated from darkness into God's marvellous light. This is a fact that should cause reflection. Here the bread cast upon the waters returns quickly and with great increase.

2. *The reaction that will be produced upon every other department of benevolence.* The present States of the Valley are destined to become wealthy and powerful. Local societies and conventions will, it is hoped, at no very distant day, supply their own destitute, and assist their feeble. Then will they join with their brethren of the older States in sending the Gospel into regions beyond them, and to the ends of the earth. Nay, they have already begun to do this. In many parts they are now raising money for the Bible, and the Tract, and Home, and the Foreign Missionary Societies. There is a characteristic spirit of enterprise in the sons of the West, that needs only to be trained and turned into the right channel, to make them valuable and powerful auxiliaries to any cause.

In a large association a strenuous effort was made, ten years ago, to raise money for some charitable purpose, and *fifty cents* only were obtained; the next year *three dollars*, and the last year *three hundred dollars*! This is but one example. "The state of things in the West," says a correspondent who is well qualified to judge, "is assuming a more encouraging aspect every hour. The impression ought to be made deeply on all our Eastern churches, that in no way can they extend the influence, strengthen the cause, and increase the means of Foreign Missions, as by prompt, liberal, and enlarged efforts for Home Missions in the West."

America is the great seed-plat of the Gospel, and it should be well cultivated.

CONCLUSION.

In view of the interesting facts which are developing from year to year; in view of past success; the favour of God on our humble efforts; of the 3,000 destitute churches of our denomination; of the numerous reapers, with their wives and children, now in the harvest, who look to this Society for their bread; of the immense work before us; the opportunity of planting an unlimited number of churches; in consideration of the guilt that must come upon us as a denomination, if we withhold good from the perishing

when it is in our power to give; in view of the coming of the Lord Jesus, when they that have done good shall come forth unto the resurrection of life, the Committee would send forth their appeal to the churches—"men of Israel, help." And to the Society they would address themselves in the language of the Mission Board in 1817, contained in their instructions to two of the earliest Missionaries that crossed the mountains; "You have voluntarily put your hands to the plough; never, never look back."

All of which is respectfully submitted by order, and in behalf of the Executive Committee.

LUTHER CRAWFORD, Cor. Secretary.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

William Colgate, Treasurer, in Account with the American Baptist Home Mission Society, Dr.

1835.

April	6.	To Miss Lucy Swaim and others, to support a Missionary in the Valley of the Mississippi, and to constitute Rev. C. B. Shute of Boston, Life Director,	\$100 00
		" Baptist Church in Littleton, Massachusetts,	6 00
		" Medfield Baptist Missionary Society, per L. Farwell,	30 00
		" A friend in Medfield, per do.	2 00
		" Shelburne Falls, Baptist Church, per C. Alden, Esq.,	13 84
		" L. Fish, Esq., per D. Root, Esq.,	1 00
		" Missionary Society, Granville, Ohio, per Rev. H. Carr,	25 42
		" Asa F. Smith, of Newton, Upper Falls, Ms. to constitute self a Life Member,	30 00
		" A Sister in Baptist Church in Foxborough, Mass.,	1 00
		" A Friend, per Dea. Gill, of Boston,	0 50
	15.	" Subscription in Rhode Island, per N. Waterman, Jr.	12 00
		" do. for balance of Life Director of the Rev. J. C. Welsh of Warren,	10 45
		" Mulberry street Baptist Church, N. Y., being half the collections at the monthly concert of prayer, per Thos. Day, Treasurer,	59 49
	18.	" Perry Church, Genesee Association, per Mr. Phoenix,	20 00
		" Le Roy, do. do. do.	3 75
	22.	" Young Mens' Miss. Soc. Brooklyn, to constitute Rev. L. Howard a Life Director, per J. Holden, Tr.	100 00
		" do. do. per, J. Holden, Esq., Tr. (of which \$30 were paid to constitute Captain J. Going, of Hinsdale, N. Y., Life Member, by his eldest son.)	40 00
	23.	" Thomas Cooper, Eatonton, Geo. per Rev. A. Sherwood,	50 00
	27.	" Connecticut Baptist Convention, per J. Brown, Tr.	500 00
		" Baptist Youths' Domestic Missionary Society, N. Y., per J. Speir, Tr.,	350 00
	29.	" Collections in New Jersey, per the Rev. J. C. Murphy,	94 12
May	14.	" Baptist Youths' Domestic Missionary Society, N. Y. per J. Speir, Tr.,	657 78
	15.	" G. Allen being a Subscription from 12 persons in North Kingston, R. I., per N. Waterman, Jr., Tr.,	12 50
		" George Mason, Providence, do.	2 00
		" A Friend, do.	0 50
		" New Bedford Female Mite Society for the Valley of the Mississippi, per L. B. Green,	22 50
		" Hamilton Missionary Society, to constitute James McLallen, Jr., a Life Member,	30 00
		" Baptist Church at Lynn, per J. Bacheler,	100 00
		" Baptist Church and congregation, Edgefield-courthouse, S. C. per Rev. W. B. Johnson,	18 00
		" A. Sommerville, Va., per Rev. J. Micou,	5 00

May	15.	To A. Bennet, Donation,	\$ 10 00
	"	S. Chapin, D.D., do.	5 33
	"	J. C. Crane, Esq., Richmond, Life Member,	30 00
	"	Isaac S. Tinsley, Va.	1 00
	"	Mrs. Catherine Bullock, Richmond, per R. Ryland,	5 00
	"	Rev. A. Sherwood, Ga., balance to constitute himself a Life Director,	50 00
	"	P. Harrison, Va., Donation,	5 00
	"	Rev. Matthew Bolles of Milford, N. H., to constitute himself a Life Director,	100 00
	28.	Baptist Youths' Domestic Missionary Society, N. Y. per J. Speir, Tr.,	235 00
	"	J. Handford, Stamford, Con. per Rev. J. Ellis,	1 00
	"	N. Weed, do. do.	0 50
June	4.	Connecticut State Convention, per J. Brown, Tr.,	95 16
	"	Collection taken up in Oliver street Church, New York, to assist in the outfit of the Rev. J. Mitchell,	68 50
	16.	Baptist Youths' Domestic Missionary Society New York, per J. Speir, Treasurer,	155 00
	20.	Kingston Baptist Church, N.Y., per Rev. S. H. Cone,	5 00
	"	Sand Lake, 2d Baptist Church, per do.	15 00
	29.	Collections per Rev. E. Going as Agent,	413 72
July	6.	Caleb Atherton, of Taunton, Massachusetts,	2 00
	"	Richard Allen, per Rev. J. Gilpatrick of Blue Hill, Me.	5 00
	"	J. Quincy, Esq., Treasurer of Meredith Baptist Association, N. H., to constitute him a Life Member,	30 00
	"	Baptist Church, Rumney, N. H., to constitute the Rev. Noah Nichols a Life Member, per A. Ward, Esq.	36 50
	"	Newton, Upper Falls, Ms. Baptist Western Missionary Society, per A. F. Smith Treasurer,	35 00
	"	J. Harris, Great Falls, Somersworth, N. H.	15 00
	"	Miss Hurley, do. do. do.	6 00
	"	Margaret Tibbetts, do. do. do.	3 00
	"	Miss Mason, do. do. do.	1 00
	"	Mrs. Clarissa Long, late of Shelburne, Massachusetts, for the propagation of the Gospel in the Valley of the Mississippi, per M. Wilder, Esq. Exec.,	37 50
	"	Baptist Church and Society, Raynham, Massachusetts, per L. Pierce, Treasurer of the Old Colony Missionary Society.	15 62
	"	E. D. Everett, for the Western Valley,	3 00
	"	Female Missionary Society, Lebanon, Me.	8 00
	"	Baptist Church in Parsonsfield, Me., per Rev. A. Goodell,	5 87
	"	John Conant, Esq., Treasurer of the Vermont Baptist Convention,	130 00
	"	(\$100 of which to constitute Rev. D. Packer a Life Director.)	
	"	Collected in various towns in Vermont, per Rev. J. M. Graves,	42 50
	"	L. P. Noble, N. Y.	10 00
	"	G. Scruggs, Esq., Alabama,	5 00
	"	Rev. M. Sands, New Lebanon, N.Y.	5 00
	"	P. C. of Me.,	10 00
	15.	Matthew Bolles, Jr. Esq., Boston, to constitute himself a Life Director,	100 00
	24.	Captain James Hague, N. J.	3 00
	"	Baptist Church in Lebanon, Madison County, N. Y., to constitute their pastor, the Rev. T. Merrill a Life Member, per G. G. Weeks,	30 00
	29.	Mrs. Deborah Cauldwell,	5 00
Aug.	1.	Rev. A. B. Smith, Va., Donation,	10 00
	"	Rhode Island, Convention, per N. Waterman Tr.,	29 00
	"	Medfield Baptist Church,	25 00
	"	Baptist Church, Somersworth, N. H. to constitute the Rev. A. Goodell a Life Member,	30 00
	"	Rev. I. Merriam for a Legacy of Wm. Powers, late of Hebron, N. H.	100 00

Aug.	1.	To Rev. J. Blain, Providence, R. I.	5 00
	"	J. Loring, Esq., Boston.	10 00
	"	S. Winston, per Rev. J. B. Taylor,	1 50
	"	Rev. E. Dennison,	2 00
	"	A. Z. being 2d instalment for the support of a Missionary at Griggsville, Illinois,	25 00
	"	M. Tunstel, per Rev. J. M. Peck,	1 00
	3.	Female Baptist Missionary Society of the first Church, Providence, R. I., per L. Crawford,	156 50
	"	Female Baptist Missionary Society, of the second Church Providence, per Rev. L. Crawford,	40 00
	13.	M. J. H. Harris, N. Y., per Rev. W. R. Williams,	10 00
Aug.	28.	New York Baptist State Convention, per C. Babcock, Esq., Treasurer,	1000 00
Sept.	17.	Miss Mary Dorset, Richmond, Va., per Reverend J. B. Taylor,	20 00
	"	Collections in New Jersey, per Rev. J. C. Murphy.	100 00
	22.	Bequest of Miss Maria Curtis, late of Southbridge Mass. per E. Going,	200 00
	"	Bangor Missionary Society, 2nd instalment, to support R. Powell as their Missionary, per E. Going,	100 00
	"	N. Brown, Esq. Providence, to constitute himself a Life Director, per Rev. L. Crawford,	100 00
	23.	Rev. J. Mercer, Georgia, Donation, per J. Gray,	50 00
	29.	John B. Miller Sumterville, S. C. to constitute himself a Life Member,	30 00
Oct.	6.	J. Spaulding, Agent, Vermont,	101 00
	12.	E. Probyn, Esq., per Rev. J. Going,	10 00
	"	W. J. Cutting, Westport, New York,	5 00
	20.	Collections in New Jersey, per Rev. J. C. Murphy,	108 00
	29.	New York Baptist State Convention, per C. Babcock, Esq. Treasurer,	4000 00
	"	Baptist Church, Rupert, Vt., towards constituting the Rev. H. H. Hafl a Life Member,	7 34
	27.	Contributed by seven friends at Newton, Upper Falls, Ms. to constitute Rev. Caleb B. Davis Life Member,	30 00
	"	The Students of the Newton Theological Inst. collected at their monthly concert for prayer, per W. Leverett,	15 00
Nov.	6.	Attleborough Female Mite Society, per H. H. Brown, Treasurer of Warren Association,	11 00
	10.	Wendell Association Mass. per Rev. Thomas Rand, at the hand of Rev. J. C. Murphy,	39 63
	"	Collections in New Jersey, per Rev. J. C. Murphy,	253 41
	"	Subscriptions in Philadelphia, do.	15 00
	"	do. in New York State, do.	15 00
Dec.	17.	J. Tucker, of Gardner Mass., per E. P. T.	25 00
	"	Seth Tucker, Winchendon,	9 00
	"	South Yarmouth Baptist Church, Mass., per Rev. S. Crowell,	1 88
	"	Thomas Shaw of Boston, to constitute him a Life Member,	50 00
	24.	Collections in the South, per Rev. L. Crawford,	1380 00
	"	Infant class of the S. School of the 1st Baptist Church, Hartford, per O. A. Bolles,	2 00
	31.	Deacon Elias Dimmick, Bennington, Vt.	15 00
	"	Baptist Church in East Bennington,	15 00
1836.		(the above to constitute the Rev. S. B. Willis a L. M.)	
Jan.	9.	First Baptist Church in Baltimore, to constitute the Pastor, the Rev. S. P. Hill, a Life Director,	100 00
	"	Connecticut Baptist Convention, per J. B. Gilbert, Esq. Treasurer,	450 00
Feb.	2.	Mrs. Ellis, Stamford, Ct.	10 00
	"	Union Baptist Association, New York,	82 35
	"	Dr. James Thomas, Fayette Co. Indiana, collected at Monthly Concert,	3 25
	"	Collection at the Western Baptist Convention, Cinn. Ohio,	50 25

Feb.	2.	To A female Friend at Cincinnati, - - - - -	\$ 1 00	
		" Subscriptions raised by J. M. Peck at the Western Baptist Convention, - - - - -	100 00	
		" A Friend in Baptist Church, Orange Co. New York, - - - - -	10 00	
		" A. Z. two instalments for support of a Missionary at Griggsville, Illinois, - - - - -	50 00	
		" Seventh Day Baptist Church, Hopkinton, R. I. - - - - -	10 00	
		" E. Loomis, Donation, - - - - -	100 00	
	5.	" Collections in the South, per Rev. L. Crawford, - - - - -	100 00	
		" New York Baptist State Convention, per C. Babcock, Tr. - - - - -	1411 00	
	10.	" Rhode Island Baptist State Convention, per N. Waterman Treasurer, - - - - -	18 50	
	13.	" Friends in Campton, N. H., per Rev. J. R. Goodno. - - - - -	32 00	
	15.	" A female Friend, per Dea. J. Wilson, - - - - -	1 00	
	25.	" Missionary Society of the North Beriah Baptist Church, per Rev. J. C. Murphy, - - - - -	100 00	
		" Ezra Gofng, collected by him as Agent, - - - - -	140 00	
Mar.	1.	" Heath Missionary Baptist Church, per C. Alden, Tr. - - - - -	1 50	
		" Colerain First Baptist Church, per do. - - - - -	23 50	
		" Seabury Fish, Chester Factory, Ms., - - - - -	1 00	
		" Foxboro' Mass. Baptist Church and Society, to constitute their Pastor, the Rev. T. C. Tingley, a Life Director, - - - - -	102 75	
		" Miss Lucy Swaim and others, to support a Missionary in the Valley of the Mississippi, and to constitute the Rev. G. B. Ide a Life Director, - - - - -	100 00	
	30.	" Church in Milledgeville, Georgia, to constitute their Pastor, C. D. Mallary, a Life Director, - - - - -	100 00	
		" Thomas Cooper, Eatonton, Georgia, - - - - -	50 00	
		" Mass. Baptist Convention, per W. D. Ticknor, Tr. - - - - -	500 00	
April 14.		" Western Association of Ladies of the first Baptist Society in Providence, for the support of their Missionary in Arkansas, - - - - -	150 00	
		" Baptist Youths' Domestic Missionary Society, per J. Spier, Treasurer, - - - - -	600 00	
May	2.	" Rev. John Payne, Executor of Jemima Elliott, late of Hampton. Con., a legacy, - - - - -	100 00	
		" The late Miss Eunice Clark, to constitute the Rev. T. Wightman, of Lyme Con. a Life Member, - - - - -	50 00	
	9.	" E. D. Everett, of Boston, per H. Lincoln, Esq. - - - - -	5 00	
	20.	" Orange Missionary Society, N. Y., per W. A. Lain, - - - - -	14 50	
	21.	" Rev. J. M. Timmons, Darlington, District S. C., - - - - -	55 00	
		" Two Friends, per W. H. Turpin, M.D., Augusta, Ga. - - - - -	10 00	
		" F. W. Fickling, Orangeburgh District, S. C., - - - - -	10 00	
		" Rev. W. Biddle, - - - - -	2 00	
	30.	" Ezra Going, collected by him as Agent. - - - - -	75 93	
			<hr/>	
			\$16910 85	
			" Balance due the Society, - - - - -	818 74

William Colgate Treasurer, in Account with the American Baptist Home Mission Society, Cr.

1835.			
April 1836.	1.	By Balance due the Treasurer this day, - - - - -	\$ 176 13
May 31.		" Amount paid to Missionaries, Salary of Secretaries, Travelling Expenses, Rent of Room, Postage, &c., - - - - -	15915 98
		" Balance in the hands of the Treasurer, - - - - -	818 74
			<hr/>
			\$16910 85

I hereby certify that I have examined the Treasurer's account, with the vouchers, and find them correct; and that there remains in the Treasury a balance of eight hundred and eighteen dollars and seventy-four cents.

R. GRAVES, Auditor.

City of New York, 4th January, 1836.

APPENDIX, NO. I.

Domestic Mission labours performed by Baptist Conventions and other local Societies in the United States.

It is intended by the Executive Committee of the Home Mission Society, to enrich their Annual Reports, with a general summary of all the Home Mission efforts in the country. The value, accuracy, and extent of this summary must necessarily depend upon the materials furnished us by the several Societies themselves. A little care on the part of their Secretaries, would enable us to present to the denomination yearly a valuable digest. Our information this year is too imperfect even to hazard a conjecture as to the number of souls converted, or of churches gathered. We can speak only of the missionaries employed, and the funds expended.

MAINE.

The Convention of this state has appointed 32 missionaries, most of them for short periods, besides gratuitous missionary service rendered by 20 pastors. This Convention also appropriated \$1350 to assist Associations in supporting missionaries appointed by them. Receipts for the year, \$1873 41. Expenditures, 1499 28.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

Seventeen missionaries, including an agent, have laboured in the employ of the Convention of this state of whom 7 were students from N. Hampton, and 4 from Newton; they of course laboured only during vacations. The Convention also assisted 13 churches to support preaching all the time, and 20 others a part of the time. Receipts \$578,95. Expenditures \$906 75.

VERMONT.

In this State 5 missionaries have been employed, besides 4 pastors who engaged for short periods. Appropriations have been made also to 6 churches to enable them to maintain constant preaching. Receipts, including \$501 02 balance in Treasury, \$2248 20. Expenditures \$1304 01.

MASSACHUSETTS.

The Convention of this State have forty labourers under appointment. Receipts \$5046 53.

RHODE-ISLAND.

The number of Missionaries labouring in this state is 9. Receipts \$861 61

CONNECTICUT.

For Domestic Missions, their receipts in 1835, were \$644 40.

NEW-YORK.

The Convention of this state have collected during the year, \$17,636 35. They have had under appointment about 70 missionaries, who together have accomplished 40 years and 9 weeks labour, *three hundred and five* souls are reported as having been hopefully converted and baptized.

NEW-JERSEY.

The brethren in this state have sustained 6 missionaries and aided 5 churches by their appropriations. Received \$2359 56. Expended 2359 72.

PENNSYLVANIA.

The Missionary Association of Pennsylvania, has employed 18 labourers the past year. Receipts \$1800 00. The Central Union Association is also a missionary body.

VIRGINIA.

The General Association of this state employ 13 missionaries, who have baptized, the past year, 280 persons. Receipts \$2565 70. As many more were doubtless supported by other local bodies.

NORTH-CAROLINA.

The Convention of this state are sustaining 6 missionaries and agents. Receipts \$451 80.

OHIO.

The Ohio Convention and its auxiliaries have raised \$2358 88, and expended nearly the same amount; and employed 24 missionaries.

Besides the above there are Domestic Missionary Societies or Conventions in South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Kentucky, and Tennessee, but we have not the data at hand on which to predicate an exact statement of their labours. Some of these bodies however are known to be efficient. After a careful examination of the documents we possess and from our general knowledge of those Societies, whose reports we have not, we hesitate not to say that the following is a very moderate estimate of the amount of labour and expense sustained by the Baptist denomination in the United States, the past year—apart from the American Baptist Home Mission Society, there are *three hundred and ten missionaries* employed and supported at an expense of *thirty-seven thousand dollars*; or including the Parent Society there are **FOUR HUNDRED AND TWENTY FOUR MISSIONARIES**, supported at an expense of **FIFTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS**.

NO. II.

HOME MISSIONS IN ENGLAND.

The Baptist Home Missionary Society of England, was constituted in 1797; four years only later than the date of their Society for Foreign Missions. Their receipts the last year, were nearly \$8577,00;—a sum in their opinion altogether inadequate to the wants of the country. There are "*five millions* in the kingdom for whom it is ascertained there is literally no room in our places of worship, were they disposed to attend!"

Rev. J. Edwards, and Rev. C. H. Rowe, are the Secretaries; the latter of whom devotes all his time to the service of the Society, and is occupied mostly in travelling, commending its objects to the pecuniary regards of the churches. This is a late measure, but is one of great utility.

Their labourers are not designated as missionaries as with us, but *agents*; many of whom seem to be unordained. They conduct public worship in the villages, much to the satisfaction of the people; frequently reading printed discourses. Of these agents, there are one hundred;—twenty of whom have laboured among the Highlands and Islands of Scotland.

Their labours have been blessed. During the year they gathered 7 new churches, and received by baptism more than 300 persons. Thirteen places of worship also have been erected by their instrumentality.

Our transatlantic brethren seem to have buckled on the harness for a long campaign. "Whilst there are Jews, Turks and Heathen abroad," say they, "there will be the careless, the formalist, and the unbeliever at home, and till these are all converted, Home Missions will not have done their work."

NO. III.

PLAN OF OPERATIONS.

I. It is a primary object with the Committee, *to obtain and disseminate information*, respecting the actual moral condition of the country; particularly as to that of the Valley of the Mississippi, and more especially within the Baptist denomination.

The means suggested for effecting this are,

1. Corresponding with men of intelligence and piety.
2. The procurement of minutes, and reports of State Conventions, or other religious bodies, and all documents containing religious statistics.
3. Public addresses by the Corresponding Secretaries and other agents and missionaries of the society.
4. Through the press, by frequent publications in the periodicals under the charge of the denomination.

II. Measures will be pursued *to excite the entire Baptist community to systematic, liberal and vigorous action*, in efforts to meliorate the moral condition of the country, and to advance the spiritual prosperity of our denomination.

The numbers, intelligence, influence and wealth of our denomination allow, our duty and interest demand such increased action. The improvement of the churches, at home, while it would preserve them from retrogradation and decay, would greatly enlarge our ability to aid in this and every other enterprise of religious charity.

III. The grand purpose of our organization will be steadily regarded,—*the preaching of the gospel to every creature in our country.*

Of the regular ministrations of the gospel of life and salvation, a large portion of the people in the United States are destitute. Other denominations of Christians are making noble and successful efforts; and we rejoice in their success, as far as they publish the great truths of the gospel. But the field is not less wide than it is “ripe already to harvest,” the reapers are few, and there is no reason to fear collision in so large a space of unevangelized territory. Many churches in the Atlantic states are without pastors, and there are in that region promising fields of labour, as yet wanting alike churches and pastors. But the chief attention of the society at the present period, should undoubtedly be directed to the Valley of the West.

For its supply, provisions may be made—

1. By employing ministers of suitable qualifications who may be found now resident there, but who from the necessity of pursuing some secular avocation do not as yet give themselves wholly to the work of the ministry.

2. By fixing from among our younger ministers men of piety and talent, and who have enjoyed the advantages of education, in the cities and villages of the West, having a regard to the influence which each position may exercise, from its local advantages, commercial or literary, over the cause of religion and education in the surrounding country.

3. By encouraging experienced and influential ministers, of more advanced years, who may wish to emigrate from the Atlantic states westward; and furnishing information and advice as to the most promising situations for extensive and lasting usefulness. A more equal distribution of the ministerial gifts vouchsafed to the church by its great Head should thus be sought. At present the same amount of members of Baptist churches have on the two sides of the Alleghany a very different ratio of pastors.

4. By establishing, as soon as may be, an agency or agencies in each state and territory. These, alike in diffusing and gathering intelligence, in their influ-

ence upon the churches, ministers and missionaries of their several states and territories, and in the collection of funds, would, if wisely selected, prove the most efficient and economical instrumentality that could be employed.

5. By encouraging the reciprocal and friendly intercourse of the Western and Eastern Baptists, in the occasional visits of ministering brethren from the one to the other region of country.

IV. *A large amount of Funds is obviously needed*, among the indispensable means of our enterprise.

These should be sought in the following modes :

1. Through the medium of State Conventions and other local institutions for the support of Home Missions, whose resources, together with those of this society, might be increased by the co-operation of the agents, or by employing a common agent.

2. Auxiliary societies, where necessary, should be formed.

3. The corresponding secretaries will be called to travel as extensively as their other duties will permit, and to solicit collections.

4. The employment of other agents, temporary or permanent, will be required.

5. Churches may be requested to contribute by constituting their pastors life directors or life members of this society.

6. Farther efforts may be made in churches by personal application to each member, on the principle of our auxiliary associations, or otherwise, to procure annual contributions to our funds.

7. Churches are requested to sustain one missionary each, under appointment and direction of the Executive Committee, at an expense suited to their ability ; in which case the correspondence of such Missionaries with their benefactors, will naturally tend to awaken and keep alive missionary feeling in the churches. So great is the difference in expense, that any annual sum from 100 to 500 dollars would answer the purpose.

8. Ministers might also, once in each year, commend the object to their people, delivering a discourse on the claims of the society.

9. Churches and congregations, benefited by aid from this society in supporting their pastor, may be stimulated to assist us, as God shall prosper them, as well by assuming at an early period the whole burden of supporting the ministry among themselves, as by contributing for the extension of similar benefits, to other and more destitute neighbourhoods.

AUXILIARIES.

The Baptist denomination has always suffered for want of some bond of union obviously proper among those who hold "one Lord, one faith, and one baptism." Home missions present the least objectionable basis for such a union ; and it is hoped, that, at no distant period, one spirit may animate the thousands of our Israel in efforts for their common interest, and in the noblest labours of love for the good of souls ready to perish. One leading object in the establishment of the A. B. H. M. Society, was to combine, in one sacred brotherhood, all the friends of Domestic Missions in the denomination throughout the United States. It proposes, therefore, to all Baptist State Conventions, and other Baptist Domestic Societies, now existing, or which may hereafter be formed, the following terms of relationship.

STIPULATIONS,

Between the American Baptist Home Mission Society and its Auxiliaries

It is the desire of the American Baptist Home Mission Society, in the prosecution of its great object of promoting the dissemination of the gospel in North

America, not to supersede or to embarrass the operations of local societies, but on the contrary, to strengthen and stimulate them, giving to their labours greater facility and larger extension. To secure this object, they propose to the local and more limited Institutions a friendly correspondence and co-operation upon the following principles.

1. That each local society become auxiliary to this society, according to the 8th article of its constitution, by agreeing to place at the disposal of its Executive Committee, the whole of their income after defraying incidental expenses: Provided, however, that the whole, or any part of such income, that may have been reported to this society as subject to its order, be allowed to remain in the treasury of the auxiliary, if requested by their Board of Direction, for the payment of missionaries and agents as hereinafter stipulated.

2. This society shall allow the auxiliary the right to appoint, direct, and pay missionaries within their specified limits, to any amount not exceeding such income, so reported to be subject to the order of the Executive Committee of this society: Provided that the appointment of missionaries by such auxiliary shall be in the manner following, viz: A sufficient number of blank commissions shall be furnished to this auxiliary, signed by the chairman of the Executive Committee and the Corresponding Secretary of the Society, which shall be filled and countersigned by the proper officers of the auxiliary, and issued on their responsibility.

3. When the auxiliary shall report the income or receipts of the same to the Executive Committee of the parent society with the request above mentioned, the committee shall direct the Treasurer to issue an order to the directors, of the auxiliary to retain such sum for the payment of missionaries appointed and commissioned as above.

4. Should appropriations, beyond the income or receipts of an auxiliary be needed within their limits, they may be made directly by this society, or a specified sum may be committed to the auxiliary for the purpose.

5. Auxiliaries shall be governed in their appropriations by the same general principles which govern the appropriations of this society.

6. Agents for the collection of funds may be appointed by the Executive Committee of this Society, with the recommendation or consent of the auxiliary; and all agents so appointed, shall report the amount of their collections both to this society and to the auxiliary; and such agents shall receive their compensation from the auxiliary or this society, or both, in such proportions as shall be agreed on.

7. When societies become auxiliary according to the 7th article of the constitution of this Society, a definite arrangement, where practicable, shall be made between this society and such auxiliary, as to the amount or proportion of the income or receipts which each shall receive.

It is understood that the Executive Committee of the American Baptist Home Mission Society engage to perform the above stipulations with auxiliary Societies: *Provided*, that the limits of such auxiliary societies be such as in their opinion, will facilitate the operations of this society, *and provided also*, that such arrangement shall not be so construed as to debar this society from the liberty of co-operating, in the same manner, if desired, with any local society within the limits of an auxiliary, acting independently of such auxiliary; and, also, of appointing missionaries, and aiding churches in supporting ministers, within such limits, if deemed necessary.

FORM OF AUXILIARYSHIP.

18

Be it remembered that the stipulations proposed by the American Baptist Home Mission Society to its Auxiliaries, were agreed to between the society and the

In witness whereof, we have subscribed our names,

Cor. Sec. of A. B. H. M. S.
Sec. of

PURPOSE OF STIPULATIONS.

"1. Wherever these stipulations are adopted, they will bring the influence of the parent society to act on its auxiliaries in the matter of raising funds, and thus a principle distinctly avowed in the formation of the society, will be most securely guarded, viz : *That it was intended to encourage efficiently all local efforts for supplying to the destitute the preaching of the gospel, without the least degree of interference with them.*

"On this plan, the agent of each auxiliary will also be the agent of the parent society, and by aiming to be constantly advised of the operations and necessities of the latter, will be able to acquaint each congregation which he may address, with what the whole country is doing ; and the influence of example will be fully felt, while the general object, by being presented as *one and undivided* will assume an importance, as much superior to that exhibited by the separate claims of a local society, as the wants of a nation are more extensive than those of a single state or country ; and it is found that when facts are presented as the ground of appeal, Christians and patriots are disposed to contribute in proportion to the magnitude of the work, to be accomplished by their beneficence. In this way the resources of each local society may be greatly increased by a connexion with the parent institution.

"2. By these stipulations, each auxiliary society is left to the independent and unembarrassed exercise of all its rights, in the business of appropriating its own funds to the relief of the needy within its limits, while it secures to itself the additional opportunity of counselling in the application of other appropriations made by the parent society within the same bounds. And this is an advantage which will be very gladly yielded to local societies, whose knowledge of the work to be done in their own limits, is in all cases, much more minute and particular than can be possessed through the medium of correspondence with the parent society.

"3 These stipulations, wherever they shall be adopted, will put it out of the power of the parent institution to contravene the wishes of those whose business it is to manage the affairs, and guard the purity of the churches in the different sections of our country. Where appropriations beyond the amount contributed by an auxiliary are needed in the district of that auxiliary, the parent Society will of course find it alike convenient and necessary to consult the wishes and avail itself of the counsels of its own auxiliary.

"The general Society thus claims but to be the servant of the churches. It pretends to no ecclesiastical authority. It interferes not with the discipline or the peculiar views of doctrine, of any of our churches. The society has no charter and no funded property. It has its being only in the confidence and co-operation of the Christian public ; and should it ever, through unfaithfulness to its trust, cease to deserve these, its auxiliaries may withdraw their aid, and the society ceases to exist.

"4. The effect of the whole plan, should it be universally acted upon by the churches, will be to secure the following advantages :

"It will prevent the interference and conflicting action of a number of independent societies, occupying portions of the same field, without concert of views and without harmony of feeling. The state conventions and other local societies, will be led to supply in the first instance their own destitute ; while the general society, gathering strength from the resources of its auxiliaries, will be *the servant of all*, in conveying their surplus charities to the new and increasing fields of desolation in our frontier settlements. For this service the parent society, sustained by the co-operation here recommended, will possess peculiar advantages. Its office will be the centre of intelligence on the subject of Home Missions, and the medium, through which the numerous local societies may communicate with each other. And what gives life and energy to this whole system, is that the parent society, thus sustained, is enabled to employ permanent officers, and thus to be in effect, *constantly in session*. This is an advantage to which no local society can aspire, but which is indispensable to the prompt and successful prosecution of missions, over a field so extensive and diversified, as yet remains to be occupied by Christian zeal in this country.

"This plan is also suited to produce a uniformity of operation, and the missionaries of the auxiliaries being also the missionaries of the parent society, will be reported as such in an annual alphabetical list, with the appropriate designation of the local society which sustains them. Thus the influence of each auxiliary will be embodied, and an annual report presented, which will embrace the doings of all; and the local societies will not be regarded as rivals of each other, but as fellow labourers in the same field, and their missionaries as all belonging to the same family."

FORM OF CONSTITUTION.

Recommended for the adoption of Auxiliary Societies.

ART. I.—This Society shall be known by the name of the Baptist Domestic Missionary Society of _____, and shall be Auxiliary to the American Baptist Home Mission Society.

ART. II.—This Society shall be composed of such individuals as shall contribute annually to its funds, together with the members of the several Auxiliary Societies for Home Missions within its limits.

ART. III.—The officers of the Society shall be a President, Vice-President, a Treasurer, and a Secretary to be chosen at the Annual Meeting. These officers, together with at least one person from each of its several Auxiliaries, shall, constitute a Board of Directors of whom five shall be a quorum at any meeting regularly convened.

ART. IV.—It shall be the duty of the Board of Directors to meet at the call of the President. They shall be authorized to appoint an Executive Committee who shall adopt the most energetic measures in their power for the accomplishment of the objects of the Society, by collecting funds, disseminating intelligence, sending a deputation to all the annual meetings of their own Auxiliaries and of the parent Society, and generally using all suitable means to excite and maintain an interest in the cause of Home Missions.

ART. V.—The annual receipts of the Society, after defraying incidental expenses, shall be paid over to the Treasurer of the parent society, with directions as to the section of country in which it shall be expended in missionary labours, should the Executive Committee deem it important to give such directions.

ART. VI.—The Society shall meet as often as called by the Directors, and annually on the _____ of March, when the officers shall be elected; the accounts of the Treasurer, properly audited, shall be presented and the annual report of the Executive Committee received, and at which meeting this Constitution may be amended by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

ART. VII.—A copy of the Constitution, authenticated by the Secretary, together with the names and residences of the officers annually elected, and also a copy of each annual report shall be transmitted to the Corresponding Secretary of the American Baptist Home Mission Society.

THE BAPTIST BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS,

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" SOLOMON PECK, *Asst. Cor. Secretary.*

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THE BAPTIST MISSIONARY MAGAZINE,

Is published in Boston, under the direction of the Baptist Board of Foreign Missions, monthly at \$1 per ann. John Putnam, Printer and Agent, 41 Washington-st. to whom applications and payments should be made. Communications for its columns should be directed to the Editor, Baptist Mission Rooms, 17 Joy's Buildings, Washington-st.

MONTHLY PAPER

OF THE BAPTIST GENERAL TRACT SOCIETY,

Is issued monthly in Philadelphia, at 50 cents, per ann. in advance.—Office, 21 South Fourth-street.

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